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Inter-Arab Affairs

Oil Ministers Arrive in Baghdad for ACC Meeting

JN0610181989 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1730 GMT
6 Oct 89

[Excerpts] Baghdad, 6 Oct (INA)—Dr Hisham al-Khatib, minister of energy and mineral resources in the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, and Ahmad 'Ali al-Muhanni, minister of petroleum and mineral wealth in the Yemen Arab Republic, arrived in Baghdad this evening to attend the first meeting of the oil ministers of the Arab Cooperation Council [ACC] states scheduled to begin in Baghdad tomorrow. [passage omitted]

'Abd-al-Hadi Qandil, Egyptian minister of petroleum and mineral resources, also arrived in Baghdad today to attend the ACC meeting. [passage omitted]

Oil Ministers Begin Meeting

JN0810095789 Baghdad Voice of the Masses
in Arabic 1300 GMT 7 Oct 89

[Text] The meetings of the ministers of oil, energy, and mineral resources of the Arab Cooperation Council [ACC] member states began this morning.

During their first session, the ministers discussed the drafts of the agreement drawn up by experts of the ACC member states' oil ministries. This agreement tackles issues pertaining to cooperation and coordination in the fields of oil, the various sources of energy, standardizing the specifications of oil products and by-products, exchanging expertise on oil exploration, developing oil fields, unifying the terminology used in oil prospecting, and quality control of the oil products.

The ministers also reviewed the draft agreement prepared by the experts on the possibility of formulating a unified policy that supports and activates the work of the oil firms and corporations in the ACC member states. This policy is also designed to encourage oil research and study the requirements of the ACC member states for oil, oil by-products, and other energy sources.

Cooperation Agreement Signed

JN0810203889 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic
1900 GMT 8 Oct 89

[Text] The ministers of oil, energy, and mineral resources of the Arab Cooperation Council [ACC] member states signed their first cooperation agreement in the field of oil and gas among the ACC states. The agreement stipulates cooperation and coordination in the field of oil and gas production and consumption, drawing up long-term goals for the ACC countries in this field, and unifying the specifications of the oil products and by-products.

Under the agreement, the ministers will pave the way for conducting joint research, establishing exploratory laboratories, extracting and refining oil and oil by-products,

removing all the obstacles that hamper the transfer and exchange of oil by-products, coordinating and preparing economic and technical feasibility studies of the joint oil projects, and benefiting from available laboratories in the ACC states to guarantee an easy and effective transfer of expertise and advanced technology.

The agreement stresses the need to exchange joint oil and planning expertise in the field of industrializing materials and equipment, especially those which are part of the refining and drilling industry, transportation, handling, and treatment of oil, gas, and oil by-products.

The agreement was signed by 'Isam 'Abd-al-Rahim, Iraqi minister of oil affairs; Ahmad 'Ali al-Muhanni, minister of petroleum and mineral wealth of the Yemen Arab Republic; Dr 'Abd-al-Hadi Qandil, minister of petroleum and mineral resources of the Arab Republic of Egypt; and Dr Hisham al-Khatib, minister of energy and mineral resources of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan.

Jordanian Minister Departs

JN0910075289 Baghdad INA in Arabic 2210 GMT
8 Oct 89

[Excerpt] Baghdad, 8 Oct (INA)—Hisham al-Khatib, Jordanian minister of energy and mineral resources, left Baghdad this evening after attending the first meeting of the ministers of oil and mineral resources of the Arab Cooperation Council member states that was concluded in Baghdad today. [passage omitted]

YAR Oil Minister Leaves

JN0910100889 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0800 GMT
9 Oct 89

[Text] Baghdad, 9 Oct (INA)—Ahmad 'Ali al-Muhanni, minister of petroleum and mineral wealth of the Yemen Arab Republic, left Baghdad early this morning after participating in the first meeting of the oil ministers of the Arab Cooperation Council member states that was concluded in Baghdad yesterday. He was seen off at the airport by Oil Minister 'Isam 'Abd-al-Rahim.

Egyptian Petroleum Minister Departs

JN0910210589 Baghdad INA in Arabic 2000 GMT
9 Oct 89

[Excerpt] Baghdad, 9 Oct (INA)—Dr 'Abd-al-Hadi Qandil, Egyptian minister of petroleum and mineral resources, left Baghdad today after he took part in the first meeting of the oil ministers of the Arab Cooperation Council member states. [passage omitted]

Islamic Affairs

ICO Foreign Ministers Meet in New York

LD0710094989 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic
0400 GMT 7 Oct 89

[Text] The coordination meeting of the Islamic Conference Organization [ICO] foreign ministers issued a final statement following their meeting at UN Headquarters in New York.

The meeting was chaired by Minister of State Muhammad Ibrahim Mas'ud, with the participation of members of the Council of Ministers in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

After preliminary debates, the conferees discussed the reports prepared by the ICO committees on Palestine, Afghanistan, South Africa, and Namibia.

The explanatory notes prepared by the General Secretariat were submitted to the conference. They related to each item on the agenda. The meeting approved the report and the recommendations of the 6-sided committee on Palestine. It saluted the blessed Palestinian intifadah and affirmed its complete support for it. It called on member states to adopt the necessary measures for implementing the resolutions, which called for strengthening the steadfastness of the Palestinian people and their confrontation with the Israeli occupation, and to give all forms of political, financial, medical, and food aid.

The meeting denounced Israel's policies and brutal practices, which are aimed at continuing the occupation and suppressing the uprising, and have led to the martyrdom of well over 1,000 and the injury and detention of scores of thousands, in addition to the deportation of citizens and the destruction of their property.

The meeting adopted the report of the Committee on Afghanistan and welcomed the completion of the withdrawal of the Soviet forces from Afghanistan. It affirmed the importance of the agreements signed in Geneva, as they formed an important step toward finding a peaceful and comprehensive solution.

The meeting also approved the report of the ICO Committee on South Africa and Namibia, affirming that apartheid is the basic reason for the struggle in the area. It expressed its deep concern for the situation in the Lebanon, affirming the solidarity of the Islamic states and their resolve to stand alongside the Lebanese people in safeguarding their unity and territorial integrity, and the spread of their sovereignty throughout Lebanese territory.

The meeting also reviewed the grave economic situation in Africa, renewing its appeal to the international community, and particularly advanced countries, and the concerned international financial institutions, to work

for a speedy implementation of the UN plan and program for the economic revival and development of Africa.

JANA Reports on Meeting

LD0510171689 Tripoli JANA English 1456 GMT
5 Oct 89

[Text] New York al-Tumur [October] 5 JAMAHIR-IYAH NEWS AGENCY—The foreign ministers of the Organization of the Islamic Conference, on concluding their meeting in New York yesterday, condemned the tests on long-range missiles by the Zionist entity as one of these missiles came down to the north of the city of Benghazi. They stressed that this act besides the possession of the Zionist entity of nuclear weapons threatens not only the security and peace of the region—it threatens the entire Islamic nation.

The above ministers called on the world community to condemn this act appealing to the Islamic countries to take all the measures they see appropriate to repulse such danger.

The resolution passed by these ministers says, inter alia, the following:

The conducting by the Zionist entity of tests on long-range missiles over the last days in the Mediterranean Sea region and the coming down of one of these missiles near the Libyan Arab city of Benghazi and the possession by the Zionist entity of nuclear weapons—the weapons of total and devastating destruction—not only threaten peace and security in the region but the entity of the overall Islamic nation.

The ministers of the Islamic countries holding a meeting yesterday in New York condemn this act expressing their anxiety over it. They call on the world community to condemn such acts and demand that the Islamic countries take all the measures they see appropriate to repulse such a danger.

This has been endorsed unanimously with no opposition. The delegations of Tunisia, Iran, Syria and Morocco gave talks there stressing that this act threatened the security and peace in the region reaffirming the importance of taking appropriate measures by the Islamic countries to encounter these aggressive acts.

ICO Calls Bulgaria to Talks in Kuwait 30 Oct

TA0510063789 Ankara Domestic Service in Turkish
0530 GMT 5 Oct 89

[Text] The Islamic Conference Organization [ICO] foreign ministers have decided to adopt a call for a meeting between the Turkish and Bulgarian foreign ministers in Kuwait on 30 October to discuss the situation of the Turkish minority in Bulgaria and bilateral relations. The invitation, extended by Kuwaiti Amir Jabir al-Ahmad

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al-Jabir Al Sabah to the two countries, was adopted following a motion submitted by Turkey. Oguz Haksever reports from New York:

This development occurred at the extraordinary meeting of the ICO foreign ministers held in New York to discuss the problems of the Turkish minority in Bulgaria. The meeting progressed as follows:

The conference began with the opening speech delivered by Saudi State Minister Muhammad Ibrahim Mas'ud, who chaired the meeting. The Saudi minister noted that all Islamic countries should support Turkey in connection with the problems of the Turkish minority in Bulgaria.

In turn, ICO Secretary General Hamid al-Ghabid said that the Turkish minority in Bulgaria is being subjected to a systematic policy of assimilation. Expressing appreciation for Turkey's calls for a dialogue to resolve the problem, the ICO secretary general remarked that Bulgarian authorities have consistently ignored these appeals.

Foreign Minister Mesut Yilmaz was the next person to address the meeting. In his statement, Yilmaz noted Turkey's appreciation for the support displayed by the Islamic community for the just cause of the Turkish minority in Bulgaria. He asked his colleagues to persist in this support.

Yilmaz stated: We do not intend to seek a confrontation with or humiliate our Bulgarian neighbors. We have never harbored such intentions. The numerous appeals we made to Bulgaria in a bid to solve this problem in a friendly way prove our good intentions. Our positive and constructive response to initiatives undertaken by third parties also demonstrates this. We sincerely hope that Bulgaria will display the [word indistinct] to abandon its unacceptable policies. If our relations with Bulgaria return to their pre-1984 level, this will please Turkey most.

Yilmaz added that the fact that the Bulgarian Government is actually committing a crime against humanity cannot be ignored.

Also addressing the meeting, the foreign ministers or representatives of other ICO member countries noted that the policy implemented by Bulgaria threatens the general atmosphere of peace and security. Following the speeches, deliberations began concerning the final communique in connection with the extraordinary conference.

Meanwhile, Egypt proposed including Yilmaz' statement to the effect that Turkey is not seeking a confrontation with Bulgaria and that it will be the country that will be pleased most if bilateral relations return to their pre-1984 situation. Egypt's proposal was adopted.

Yilmaz, in turn, asked that the Kuwaiti amir's invitation to the Turkish and Bulgarian foreign ministers to meet in Kuwait on 30 October to conduct talks on the situation

of the Turkish minority in Bulgaria and bilateral relations be included in the final communique. Following discussion, this proposal was accepted and included in the final communique.

The provision included in the final communique is as follows: The ICO ministers appreciate and find apt the invitation extended by the Kuwaiti amir to the Turkish and Bulgarian foreign ministers to meet in Kuwait on 30 October to discuss bilateral relations and the situation of the Turkish minority in Bulgaria.

The final communique also calls on the Bulgarian Government to fulfill its international commitments and to restore the religious, ethnic, and cultural rights of the Muslim Turkish minority.

With the conclusion of this conference, Foreign Minister Yilmaz ends his contacts within the framework of the UN General Assembly and his other diplomatic efforts. Yilmaz will leave New York tomorrow en route to Turkey.

Palestinian Affairs

'Arafat Chairs Leadership Meeting in Tunis

JN1010210089 Baghdad Voice of the PLO
in Arabic 1930 GMT 10 Oct 89

[Text] The Palestinian leadership has held a meeting in Tunis under the chairmanship of Brother leader President Abu-'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat]. The meeting was attended by the brother members of the PLO Executive Committee and the Fatah Central Committee; Comrade Nayif Hawatimah, secretary general of the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine [DFLP]; members of the DFLP Political Bureau; and representatives of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine, the Arab Liberation Front, the Palestine Liberation Front, and the Palestinian Communist Party.

During this meeting, the Palestinian leadership discussed the situation in light of the recent developments inside our occupied land, particularly the Israeli threats to our people, the military siege, and the policy of starvation imposed on Gaza.

The Palestinian leadership adopted a number of decisions to face the situation and highly praised the recent UN resolution on these criminal Israeli practices against our people. The leadership also discussed the Israeli position in light of American support for Shamir and his plan, as well as the repercussions of this on the general situation affecting the Palestine question and the Middle East.

The Palestinian leadership formed a committee to follow up the situation.

'Arafat Interviewed on 10 Points, Dialogue

JN1010094289 Amman AL-RAY in Arabic

10 Oct 89 pp 1, 16

[Text] Colleague 'Abd-al-Bari 'Atwan, editor in chief of the London-based AL-QUDS AL-'ARABI has held a comprehensive dialogue with His Excellency President Yasir 'Arafat, president of the State of Palestine and PLO Executive Committee chairman. AL-RAY, together with AL-QUDS AL-'ARABI, today publishes the text of the dialogue. The following is the text of the interview.

The interview should have been conducted in Baghdad on the sidelines of the PLO Central Council meetings after the president agreed to give this exclusive interview to AL-QUDS AL-'ARABI. However, recent developments and the Israeli cabinet's rejection of the 10 questions addressed to it by Mubarak prompted us to ask for an earlier appointment with 'Arafat. The response we received urged us to travel to East Berlin.

Abu-'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] arrived in Berlin from Beijing at midnight on a trip that lasted more than 10 hours, with a short stopover in Siberia. We waited for 2 days before the interview was held.

On board the Emirates [United Aab Emirates] plane, which carried him from East Berlin, we conducted the following interview with Yasir 'Arafat.

['Atwan] What is the story of the 10 points?

['Arafat] I will tell our Arab masses the full story of the 10 points, because there has been much banal talk about them, particularly by the news media. The Egyptian president announced twice that these questions are neither proposals nor an initiative. He used the phrase "not alternative" [preceding two words in English]. Egyptian Foreign Minister Dr 'Ismat 'Abd-al-Majid said at the Arab League session in Tunis that the alleged points are questions addressed to the Israeli cabinet by the Egyptian cabinet. He added that these questions include one on the destiny of Jerusalem. He went on to say that the following questions are also contained in the Egyptian package: Is Jerusalem annexed or not? Who will supervise the elections? Will it be an international force or not? Will there be a link between these elections and the final solution? Regrettably, the media have blown these questions out of proportion. The Arab media organs, some knowingly others unknowingly, fell into the trap and called the questions "the 10 points" or the "Egyptian initiative."

There are no 10 points or an Egyptian initiative. That is because if there were 10 points, it would mean they constitute an initiative; consequently Israel would not be obliged to respond to this initiative.

Hence, the Israeli newspapers evaded tackling these questions, which were blown out of proportion by the U.S. news media, to serve their own ends. Regrettably, our Arab media organs fell in the trap because some of

them receive instructions from abroad, while others acted unknowingly. The end result was that Shamir did not find himself obliged to respond to these questions, considering that they constitute an initiative, and he is not obliged to respond to initiatives.

['Atwan] What is the full story of the elections? From where, in your opinion, did Yitzhaq Shamir come up with this idea?

['Arafat] These questions and the story of the elections must be clarified to the world public opinion.

First, I am not surprised by the Israeli response rejecting the Egyptian questions. I expected this response. They called it an initiative so they could reject it. When Israel and its news media described these questions as an initiative, I told them [not further identified] that Israeli officials would reject them. They are questions to which answers must be provided, and not an initiative to be rejected. Even some of the Egyptian news media made the mistake of describing these questions as an initiative comprising 10 points.

The elections are a U.S. idea agreed on with Shamir. The U.S. Administration must understand that we are neither stupid nor simple-minded. It must also understand that we are clever enough not to be deceived. These elections are a U.S. plan drawn up by some of Israel's friends and contained in a book entitled "Building for Peace." I am sorry to say that the plan contained in this book, which its authors wrote in coordination with the American Israel Public Affairs Committee, the Zionist lobby's organization, and in consultation with former U.S. Secretary of State Henry Kissinger, is what is being viewed and proposed as the "Shamir plan."

Regrettably, this is something that President George Bush and his Secretary of State James Baker should understand. What is taking place is exactly what is contained in the aforementioned book, issued by the Middle East Institute in Washington, which is headed by Mondale. It is also regrettable that those who wrote this book were appointed as officials in charge of Middle East affairs at the State Department to implement this plan.

I want to ask: Do President Bush and Baker know this? What is presented to us is a U.S. plan with an Israeli name. This is why Israeli Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin said: "Who said that Shamir's elections plan is an Israeli plan? It is a U.S.-Israeli plan." The Israeli press said the same thing. You know that we, God be praised, are an informed leadership that follows the smallest details and all that is carried by the Israeli, U.S., and world media.

['Atwan] You have hesitated in replying to the elections issue, why?

['Arafat] When they proposed the elections plan, they believed that we would say no to elections, that we would reject elections. At the Arab summit in Geneva, we said yes to the elections, provided that they are held

under international auspices, away from the Israeli occupation, and as part of the peace process. They were disappointed, and I told them I challenge you with the Namibian example.

[Atwan] Why did they refuse to implement the Namibian example in the occupied territories?

[Arafat] Because they believe that not all of the forces in Namibia support the Namibian Liberation Movement, South-West African People's Organization [SWAPO]. So, if SWAPO won, then it will have a strong opposition in the government. However, for us, God be praised, the PLO is the representative of all Palestinians.

[Atwan] But it is said that HAMAS represents a strong opposition?

[Arafat] They tried to make an opposition to us out of HAMAS, but they failed, thanks to our awareness and that of HAMAS. I stress to you that HAMAS is part of the intifadah and of the Unified National Leadership. HAMAS also coordinates with the Unified National Leadership through Fatah. This is why they outlawed HAMAS' activities and considered it a terrorist organization, just like the PLO organizations.

[Atwan] Why have the Egyptian 10 questions been depicted as if they were posed to the PLO and as if the PLO is required to answer them?

[Arafat] We did not fall in this trap. At every news conference I said that these questions are posed to Israel and not to us. It is true that some of our brothers in the Palestinian leadership fell in this trap.

[Atwan] Some of them from Fatah?

[Arafat] I do not care. I am here speaking on behalf of the PLO, as PLO chairman. Some Palestinian organizations and some Fatah leaders have made a mistake or replied hastily to these questions. They asked me in Japan, in Senegal, and in the PRC, and I told them that these questions are not posed to me. Even when the 30 Israeli journalists asked me about these Egyptian 10 questions, I told them ask your leadership because it should answer them, not me.

[Atwan] Before the [Israeli] Council of Ministers refused to answer the Egyptian questions, Shamir said that he was studying the possibility of holding a tripartite U.S.-Israeli-Egyptian meeting to elect a Palestinian delegation to the negotiations. Baker has also recently held contacts to hold such meeting. What is your answer?

[Arafat] Shamir wants to evade the impasse of answering the Egyptian questions, and to throw the ball in the Palestinian court. They want to go back to the issue of who represents the Palestinians. I replied to them and said: Who represents the Israelis? The side that will appoint the Israelis is the Israeli leadership, and the side that will appoint the Palestinians is the Palestinian leadership, and this must take place under international

[Atwan] What stand would you adopt if the referent tripartite meeting is held?

[Arafat] We have nothing to do with the Egyptian-U.S.-Israeli dialogue. This is part of Camp David. These are meetings among the Camp David parties. They have a right to meet. They previously met in Tabah. But if matters concern the Palestinian command, I would like to explicitly state that I am the party that speaks on behalf of the Palestinian people. President Mubarak has reiterated this more than once. He explicitly and frankly stated: I cannot represent the Palestinian people and cannot speak on their behalf. He told them: You have the PLO. Go and speak to it. I have thanked President Mubarak for this stand in particular.

[Atwan] In your opinion, what is President Mubarak's stand following the Israeli rejection of his 10 questions?

[Arafat] They portrayed it as being an initiative and not questions. Mubarak must insist and say: In my capacity as one of the Camp David signatories, I have the right to ask you for specific replies to each of these questions. This is what the Camp David accords stipulate. As Palestinians, should we take only the negative aspects of Camp David?

[Atwan] From time to time the press reports the names of Palestinian figures who reportedly will be members of the Palestinian negotiating delegation. Is there some truth to these reports and will they be chosen? What is the purpose of listing them?

[Arafat] The purpose of mentioning these names from time to time is to sow confusion in Palestinian ranks, particularly in the occupied territories. For example, one would say why they chose this or that person, and why not me? Why is this faction represented and not my faction? Shall we fight over the skin of the bear before hunting it?

As yet, the Palestinian command is not interested in announcing names. When the time comes, the command will meet and select names from inside and outside the occupied territories in accordance with the Palestine National Council [PNC] resolution.

[Atwan] Will all the Palestinian factions be represented in the delegation?

[Arafat] This is not important. Yasir 'Abd-Rabbuh, who heads the Palestinian delegation in the dialogue with the United States, represents all the Palestinian factions. In negotiating with the United States, he represents all the Palestinian people.

[Atwan] Brother Abu-'Ammar, you once stated that you support the establishment of a Palestinian state, even if it were to be only in Jericho. Has anything changed, or do you still abide by this stand?

[Arafat] Regaining one inch of Palestinian territory is the and establishing a free and independent Palestinian state for the establishment of Israel from the sea to the river, and

which states that Palestine is a land without a people and is for a people who are without a land. This is wrong. Palestine has a people. God willing, this people will establish their state even on one inch of territory in Jericho. This decision was adopted by the PNC in its 1974 session and stipulates the establishment of a national authority on any part of Palestinian soil that is liberated, or from which Israel withdraws. We are not bringing anything new. We said the same thing in 1988.

[Atwan] With respect to the U.S. Administration, how will it act now following the Israeli rejection of the Egyptian questions, and do you expect it to apply pressure on Israel?

[Arafat] The five who are behind the book entitled "Building for Peace," the disciples of Kissinger in the U.S. Administration, will move. They are in agreement with Shamir and coordinate with him. They will act as they have in the past to prevent the Labor Party from leaving the Israeli coalition government. Who prevented the Labor Party from leaving the government? It was the United States. Therefore, the United States is manipulating the fabricated crisis in Israel. These five are the ones who are running U.S. policy in the Middle East, and not Bush or Baker. I regret saying this. However, President Bush has said one important thing, but which is not currently applied. He spoke about terminating the Israeli occupation of the occupied territories. This is not applied. Something else is being implemented. The contents of the referent book are being implemented. I tell him this through AL-QUDS AL-'ARABI, which is published in London. I tell him the following: What you say is neither applied in the White House, nor with respect to the U.S. policy in the Middle East.

Baker himself said Israel must set aside its dream of a Greater Israel. But this is not what is being applied in reality.

I would like to ask President Bush: With whom are we dealing? With statements or with the Israeli stooge in the State Department, the writers of the aforementioned book?

I would like to ask President Bush: With whom will I hold the dialogue, on what will I depend, and on what basis will I build my policy?

President Bush must not forget that it was on the basis of his word and the agreement we reached in Stockholm that the U.S.-Palestinian dialogue has started.

I know that it was when the previous administration hesitated on the dialogue with the PLO that President Bush supported it just after his election.

The dialogue in Stockholm was not with Shultz, but with Bush, Mahmud Darwish and Yasir 'Abd-Rabbuh, who are with me now now, certainly through the dialogue through the Swedish ambassador in Washington.

[Atwan] Do we understand from this that the Zionist stooge in the State Department is the one against granting you a visa to New York?

[Arafat] I have not applied for a visa yet. However, what is currently taking place does not encourage me to apply for one. It is a false situation. Since the question is one of obstinacy, I shall not apply for visa. And since the battle is open, I shall enter it. I am not starting a battle. I have my Executive Committee brothers (Jawid al-Ghusayn, Mahmud Darwish, Ahmad 'Abd-al-Rahim, and Abu 'Ala' from the Fatah Central Committee) on the plane with me. We have no intention of applying for visas. If they want a battle, we are ready. We know how to wage it.

[Atwan] This means we should not expect an early resumption of the U.S.-Palestinian dialogue?

[Arafat] We are ready for dialogue. Our views are very clear. We have also read the book "Building for Peace" very carefully. I have an answer to every page in that book. I am fully prepared. I have several options for each point. We have done our homework.

[Atwan] Some Western papers have interpreted your appeal to the internal units for unity as an indication of the existence of divisions and differences. These papers have also played up the reports on the liquidation of collaborators, also attributing this to divisions and differences. Is there any basis for that?

[Arafat] No. Liquidation of collaborators was made on the basis of a decision made by the internal unified leadership. I gave them the powers of commander in chief to sign execution decisions, just as I have given such powers to the field commander in southern Lebanon. These powers are called the powers of the field commander. This is why field trials are held and the sentences are carried out in the field. The unified leadership enjoys the powers of commander in chief as far as agents are concerned.

[Atwan] But have you set strict rules to avoid any injustice, errors, or excesses?

[Arafat] The unified leadership has the right to execute anyone who is proven to be an enemy agent. However, we have taken the necessary precautions; foremost, that the decision must be unanimous at two levels: the regional leadership and the unified leadership. The decision at the branch level may not be unanimous, but it must be unanimous at the levels of the regional leadership and the unified leadership.

[Atwan] You have not spoken about unity inside the territories.

[Arafat] The question of unity inside the territories is part of my priorities. In all my calls, I always touched on it and called for promoting it. Why does this bother them? Brother, I am free to address whatever call I want to my people, and I don't care about their explanations. The national unity inside and outside the territories has

never been so strong as it is now. I have a monthly message that is worded according to the situation being encountered. If there is a problem in Nabulus, I would proceed to handle it. We formed committees, which are called good offices committees, and which play the role of courts. In each area, these committees are made up of well-known and popular personalities. These committees are now prevalent throughout the entire occupied territory.

[Atwan] Up till now, Shamir has refused to meet any Palestinian official, and even more than this, the Labor Party leader assumes the same position...

[Arafat, interrupting] I do not put myself on display to persuade them to meet me. What I offered at the United Nations was quite clear. I said: Come, let us hold a dialogue, and negotiate under UN auspices with a view to achieving a reconciliation of the brave, as De Gaulle did. It seems that there is no Israeli De Gaulle, nor an Ian Smith, who approved the Zimbabwe peace agreement, nor even a Botha, who accepted the solution in Namibia.

[Atwan] In the Saudi city of al-Ta'if, the Lebanese deputies' meetings are now under way to find a solution to the Lebanese problem. In view of your long experience, do you expect the deputies to come up with a solution that is capable of being implemented on the ground?

[Arafat] My talk may hurt Lebanon. This is because I cannot be a mute devil. I have not yet become president of a republic nor even a prime minister. I am still a struggler, but still, I cannot remain silent. There is a conspiracy in Lebanon. This is something I said at the Arab League and summits, and communicated to the Arab leaders one by one. In Lebanon, there is a U.S.-Israeli decision being implemented in which some Arab states are involved to divide Lebanon. Officially, Lebanon is not divided, but on the ground it is split into four cantons: a Christian canton, a Druze canton, which would extend to include the Golan Druze and the Druze of Al-Suwayda'. I have seen the map and distributed copies of it to the Arab leaders. The third area is a buffer zone and a part or a canton under Israeli domination to the south of al-Awwali River. Israeli forces can move freely up to 50 km north of this canton, carrying out operations wherever they want, like what is happening in South Africa. The Israeli forces raid and punish Lebanese villages, and they are doing the same thing to Palestinian camps. There is also a fourth part, which will remain under Syrian control.

These are the four parts determined on the ground. Later, Lebanon will have a president who will administer the crisis—if attempts succeed to elect a president—alongside a prime minister who will tackle the crisis. My talk is harmful, 'Abd-al-Bari, but I will never keep silent. History will record that I have said what I must say. "God will be my witness that I have conveyed the message... The problem is that we know many things about the situation.

[Atwan] The United States and Israel have not responded to the Soviet proposal concerning the convening of a direct Palestinian-Israeli meeting in Moscow. Did you discuss this issue with Gorbachev during your short meeting with him on the sidelines of the GDR celebrations?

[Arafat] In my meeting with Gorbachev, we agreed on conducting a joint reassessment after the United States went back on some statements it made to the USSR side as well as the Arab sides. Thus, we agreed to hold imminent Palestinian-Soviet meetings, and to reassess the situation in the Middle East.

Tehran TV Interviews Ahmad Jibril, Muragha

NC0710194789 Tehran Television Service in Arabic
1100 GMT 7 Oct 89

[Interview with Ahmad Jibril, secretary general of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine-General Command, and Sa'id Musa Muragha, alias Abu-Musa, leader of the Fatah Movement-Provisional Command, by unidentified correspondent in Tehran; date not given—recorded]

[Excerpts] [Interviewer] We welcome our distinguished guests Ahmad Jibril and Abu-Musa to this humble meeting and in their country, the Islamic Republic. Our dear viewers, there is hardly a nation or a country whose sense of acute concern over Palestine surpasses that of the Islamic nation in Iran. Many of the Islamic Republic's guests have noticed that Iranian television gives prime coverage to the Palestinian intifadah. The Palestinian problem is the foremost cause of our Muslim people and their God-inspired leadership.

My first question is to brother Abu-Musa. My dear brother, the Egyptian regime has recently initiated a 10-point plan, with the blessing of Arab countries. The 10 points are designed to lead to a Palestinian-Israeli dialogue. What is your assessment of this plan?

[Muragha] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Many thanks for this invitation which gives us a chance to express our views as revolutionary and Islamic forces in Palestine on the developments concerning the Palestinian issue and particularly on the so-called 10 points put forward by Husni Mubarak's regime. I want to remind you that his regime is committed to the Camp David accords which in turn are a manifestation of the strategy of the forces of U.S. arrogance and imperialism.

During the first week of the blessed intifadah of our Palestinian people, Mubarak suggested that the intifadah should be stopped for 6 months so as to discuss solutions to the Arab-Zionist conflict. The goal was evidently to extinguish the light of the intifadah and nip it in the bud. [passage omitted]

Mubarak's recent promises, aimed at terminating the intifadah, undermining it, and demolishing its chances to

stay on its course of continued struggle. Mubarak's plan does not aim at finding a solution to the Palestinian issue. The plan does not mention the right of the Palestinian people to return to the homeland from which they were expelled in 1948. The plan makes no mention of a Palestinian state. It does not touch in any way on the issue of the homeland. It does not even call for self-determination. Therefore, our conclusion is that Mubarak's plan aims at ending the intifadah and facilitating the implementation of Shamir's plan which denies the existence of the Palestinian people as a nation and refuses to give up one inch of the occupied land of Palestine.

The dangerous thing in Mubarak's plan is that it has received much publicity and has been accepted by imperialists, particularly America, and by Western and even Eastern European nations. The plan is also popular among Arab reactionary countries, particularly those led by Husni Mubarak, King Husayn, and King Hassan. [passage omitted]

Therefore, we believe that all active, faithful, struggling, and Islamic forces have a duty to act swiftly and to prevent a meeting between the devious 'Arafat-led gangs and the Zionist leaders. The mere convocation of such a meeting under the blessing and cooperation of Arab sides, particularly Egypt, would suggest that the Palestinian cause is drawing to an end and will be liquidated. [passage omitted]

[Interviewer] Thank you, Mr Abu-Musa. I would like to return to this topic. Dear listeners, we now interview our distinguished guest, Mr Ahmad Jibril. Mr Jibril, certain Arab countries have entertained a wish to recognize Israel but have not done so for fear of the Palestinians. Now we hear U.S. statements calling on Arab countries to recognize Israel on the pretext that this would no longer conflict with the steps being taken by the Palestinians. How do you assess this situation?

[Jibril] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Peace be upon our great Prophet Muhammad. This question calls for a long answer, but I will try to be brief. There is no doubt that the imperialists and the countries of the world arrogance have been hard put to extract recognition of the Zionist entity not only from the Palestinian people but also from the Arab people. For the past 41 years there have been revolutions and coups in our Arab world motivated by anger at the reluctance of the Arab leaders to play their role in the liberation of Palestine. [passage omitted]

Unfortunately, the forces of world arrogance have recently been successful in remolding the Arab mind and making it amenable to recognizing the Zionist enemy. Certain sections of the Arab world have become more or less tolerant on that issue, either because of the cultural invasion of our region by the forces of the world arrogance or the continued failure of Arab governments and regimes to play their role in liberating Palestine.

The decisive and critical moment came when Al-Sadat visited Jerusalem and signed the Camp David accords in 1979. [passage omitted]

There has always been a great obstacle in the face of U.S. imperialism and the forces of arrogance, namely the Palestinian people who are at the core of the conflict with the Jews. The Palestinian people have certainly come under the same pressures which the forces of arrogance have brought to the Arab leaders. There are even countries which we regard as friendly, such as the Soviet Union, which have applied continuous pressure on us for 2 decades to make us recognize the Israeli enemy. These are countries which we regard as friends and allies.

There is no doubt that the onslaught of the forces of arrogance, the culture that they exported to us, and the prevailing state of despair have affected many sections of the Palestinian people and some of their leaders. So we now have people like Yasir 'Arafat who believe that we lack the capability to fight the Israeli enemy or to liberate Palestine and that we have to coexist, reach an agreement, and recognize the Zionist enemy.

However, the conflict will continue. As my brother Abu-Musa mentioned a while ago, the intifadah in the occupied territories represents a total rejection of coexistence with the Zionist entity and doctrine. [passage omitted] There are massive popular forces that reject coexistence with and recognition of the enemy.

The United States may claim that it has tamed the Arab people and the Palestinian people into recognizing Israel, but this is just an exaggeration. It is part of a psychological war aimed at breaking our resolve and morale. Our people will keep on struggling. Fighting the Zionist enemy in Palestine is a religious duty. It has been prescribed by the Koran, for God has told us to unite and then enter the Aqsa mosque as we had entered it before. [Reference to Ayah VII of Sura XVII of the Koran] No ruler should be obeyed if he violates the divine injunctions and the holy Koran.

[Interviewer] Thank you for this answer, Mr Ahmad. It seems that the question remaining is that while some Arab countries and regimes espouse the logic of compromise and of recognizing Israel, the Islamic peoples espouse the logic of rejection. Most of the social classes you have mentioned are only tools in the hands of these regimes. Mr Abu-Musa, what are the practical steps that you can take to foil the attempts to contain the intifadah, smother it, or even steal its fruits?

[Muragha] [Passage omitted] The intifadah will not be affected by the decisions of the deviationists and plotters. But we must also remind people that we should not keep saying that this is a great intifadah and then sit down to watch television show pictures of demonstrators, children, and women throwing stones. There must be action.

Who is responsible for protecting this infidadah? It is the responsibility of the revolutionary, Islamic, and jihad forces. The intifadah is great but it needs backing. It is great to tell the world about what is taking place but it is greater to provide people with the ability to live and to continue. 'Arafat is collecting funds from the Arab reactionaries to spend on his trips and European tours and wants to starve our people so that they will submit to his will and to the will of imperialism. Thus the forces that believe in the liberation of this land and its holy places must back this intifadah with all their resources. We as nationalists have contacts and revolutionary and popular bases. We are coordinating with the other Muslim brothers inside the occupied homeland. Our statements and stands are clear. We also gain from the base of the forces that represent deviation because that base is a nationalist one. Even if these forces deviate, their base remains part of this people. So we can say that there are not peoples who betray the homeland but individuals. Individuals, even if there are hundreds of them, do not represent the people. The revolution is all right but it needs backing and support. [passage omitted]

Bal'awi, Pelletreau Meet in Tunis 5 Oct

JN0610143389 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1400 GMT
6 Oct 89

[Text] Tunis, 6 Oct (INA)—Hakam Bal'awi, ambassador of the state of Palestine to Tunisia, last night met with Robert Pelletreau, U.S. ambassador in Tunis. The PAL-ESTINIAN NEWS AGENCY, WAFA, said that during the meeting, a review was made of the most important current political developments and the stands of the concerned parties to achieve tangible progress in the peace process.

This is the second meeting within a week between the Palestinian and American ambassadors to pursue the contacts between the two sides.

The fourth session of the American-Palestinian dialogue was held here on 14 August.

Fatah Revolutionary Council Official Killed

NC1010193389 Paris AFP in English 1924 GMT
10 Oct 89

[Text] Beirut, Oct 10 (AFP)—An official of the radical Palestinian group, Abu Nidal's Fatah Revolutionary Council (FRC), was assassinated late Monday in the southern Lebanon port of Sidon, the FRC said Tuesday.

The group charged that Sadiq Ahmad 'Ali, 37, also known as Musa 'Alawnah, was killed as part of a series of assassinations by the Israeli intelligence service Mosad.

The FRC's chief in south Lebanon, Nu'man Ra'fat, was killed in Sidon on August 23. The group later executed 15 "spies" that it claimed were implicated in the assassination.

Khalaf on International Conference, Intifadah

JN0610204489 Baghdad Voice of the PLO
in Arabic 1923 GMT 6 Oct 89

[Text] Fatah Central Committee member brother Abu-Iyad [Salah Khalaf] has affirmed that any just and comprehensive settlement of the Middle East problem can be achieved only through an international peace conference attended by all parties in the region as well as the five permanent Security Council member states.

In a statement to the press published in Tunis yesterday, brother Abu-Iyad explained that the international conference is the only guarantee for any real peace in the region. He also said that our giant popular intifadah must continue and escalate and that we must surround it with certain means to make the Zionist enemy realize that it cannot overlook the inalienable and legitimate rights of our heroic Palestinian people.

'Abbas Blames U.S. for Israeli 'Stalemate'

JN0610203789 Manama WAKH in Arabic 2000 GMT
6 Oct 89

[Text] Tunis, 6 Oct (WAKH)—PLO Executive Committee Member Mahmud 'Abbas said that the Israeli Inner Cabinet's failure to adopt a stand on the Egyptian 10 points reflects the state of paralysis in the Israeli stand on the peace process in the Middle East. In a statement to the QATARI NEWS AGENCY, QNA, 'Abbas added that Likud believes that no real settlement should be reached. The Likud, he added, resorts to the method of procrastination to buy time, hoping that changes will take place in the region to waste the existing opportunities for peace.

Mahmud 'Abbas expressed his conviction that the announcement of an official stand, whether negative or positive, will end the coalition between Likud and Labor and will enable one of the two parties to form a government with the help of other party minorities.

Mahmud 'Abbas held the U.S. Administration largely responsible for this situation for failing to play a fundamental role to break the stalemate in the Israeli stand, expressing his conviction that the U.S. Administration has so far not made a decision on the final settlement in the Middle East.

PLO's Ahmad Comments on 10-Point Plan, Dialogue

PM0610115589 London AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT
in Arabic 3 Oct 89 p5

[Interview with PLO Executive Committee member 'Abd-al-Rahim Ahmad by Mahmud Ka'wash in Athens; date not given]

[Excerpts] [Ka'wash] Have the 10 points proposed by Egyptian President Husni Mubarak as a peace program made any positive headway that would call for optimism about the future?

[Ahmad] There has been controversy for some time about what has been called the 10-point program, which was submitted by the Egyptian Government to the Tel Aviv government in the form of questions about the Shamir plan adopted by the Israeli Government for elections in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip.

My view as a PLO Executive Committee member is that, contrary to media allegations, what the Egyptian brothers submitted was neither a program nor a plan. It was a list of questions which were also submitted to the PLO, which in turn took a clear position on them. That position, in brief, is that we cannot hold negotiations with Israel on the issue of elections alone. The PLO does not reject elections as such. What it rejects is elections in isolation from any other subsequent steps. In its contacts with the Egyptian brothers and other international mediators who acted to promote this matter, the PLO said that elections in the occupied territory constitute only one link in a continuous chain leading to an international conference. It also also requested commencement of unconditional dialogue on all matters, including elections. [passage omitted]

[Ka'wash] How is the U.S.-Palestinian dialogue going?

[Ahmad] Actually, after a series of U.S.-Palestinian dialogue sessions, we are increasingly surprised by the U.S. position, which is still totally aligned with the Israeli position. I do not exaggerate when I say that they use pressure tactics. The Americans have offered nothing during the dialogue. On the contrary, they are still in the process of presenting their views and promoting Shamir's idea as the only option. That is why the last session was a complete failure. The method followed by the Americans was to concentrate on the need for the PLO to accept Shamir's plan—or else. The PLO adamantly rejected it and refused to accept it under any circumstances.

This makes it necessary for all people concerned with and interested in pushing the wheel of peace forward to act urgently and intensively to influence the U.S. position before anything else, because Washington can effectively influence the Israeli Government. Neither the Israeli Government nor the U.S. Government has answered the 10 points or questions submitted to Yitzhaq Shamir's government by Dr Butrus Ghali during his recent visit to Tel Aviv.

[Ka'wash] Israel insists on confining the talks to the election issue.

[Ahmad] The PLO is fully aware of the purpose behind Israel's insistence that the dialogue be restricted to the issue of elections. Furthermore, and despite their insistence, the Israelis are not serious even about committing themselves on this issue if the PLO did agree to that—which is unlikely. Their aim is to gain more time to strike at the Palestinian intifadah. Our people in the occupied territory are also aware of this Israeli scheme and its objectives. [passage omitted]

[Ka'wash] Is there anything new in Palestinian-Jordanian relations?

[Ahmad] Coordination between us and the brothers in Jordan has made long, positive strides forward. As an example I cite Jordan's agreement to reopen the Palestine National Fund office in Amman and give the PLO more facilities in the interest of our people's steadfastness in the occupied territory and in support of our people's heroic intifadah, which is now at its peak despite Israel's policy of starvation applied against our people through increasing food prices and the use of magnetic identity cards as a means of racial discrimination against our workers, who have rejected that method and responded to the Unified National Leadership's appeal. The PLO has had to shoulder its full duties to our workers, particularly in the occupied territory, and shoulder its material responsibilities by extending aid. Other measures will be taken later to strengthen the position of our workers in Gaza, who reject all the occupation forces' coercive and fascist measures.

[Ka'wash] Such as?

[Ahmad] The PLO has its own numerous ways of getting the necessary aid to our brothers in the occupied territory to strengthen their steadfastness. The Jordanian brothers are giving us considerable assistance in this connection, and we appreciate and value that assistance.

[Ka'wash] Is there any disagreement between the Palestinian and Jordanian positions on the Shamir plan and the question of elections in the occupied territory?

[Ahmad] The Jordanian position on the Shamir plan and the elections issue is identical with the PLO's position. Like many other Arab brothers, they know the danger and the aims of the plan and its objectives, which are mainly to kill the Palestinian intifadah and consequently kill the Palestinian cause for a long time to come. We and they are eager to continue our meetings in the service of our mutual interests.

[Ka'wash] Do you expect quick success for the Arab tripartite committee in its efforts to establish peace in Lebanon?

[Ahmad] We wish for an end to the fraternal Lebanese people's suffering and for a solution to their problem as soon as possible, and we wish the tripartite committee every success despite numerous reservations. The PLO supports the unanimous decisions of the Lebanese people. If all factions of the Lebanese people have accepted the tripartite committee's plan of work, we can only support and bless it, hoping that our brothers in the committee and the Arab leaders are this time determined to continue the work until peace is established in that country, which is close to our hearts and the hearts of all the Arabs. [passage omitted]

[Ka'wash] Are the reports about President 'Arafat's willingness to visit Israel for a dialogue with Israeli leaders true?

[Ahmad] That did not come from brother Yasir 'Arafat but was attributed to him. As Abu-'Ammar ['Arafat] has already said, the PLO is prepared to enter into a dialogue with Israel without any prior conditions on all matters in detail. This has been discussed and agreed by the PLO Executive Committee. There is no condition that the dialogue should be in any particular place.

[Ka'wash] And what about Bassam Abu-Sharif?

[Ahmad] Bassam Abu-Sharif does not represent anything in the PLO and, as you know, the PLO has answered him clearly through its official spokesman. Bassam is more a journalist than a PLO official. He resorts to press sensations which I believe do not benefit our struggle or cause. It would be unwise to maintain that method, because it affects our national unity in one way or another and also affects our people's intifadah in the occupied territory. [passage omitted]

[Ka'wash] Do you not believe that the PLO has offered everything and obtained nothing in return? I mean in the dialogue with the United States?

[Ahmad] We say that the PLO has offered everything it could, yes, that is true. As to whether or not the U.S.-Palestinian dialogue is beneficial or not, well, that is just one of the fields of struggle in our battle to regain our rights by various means, including political and diplomatic means. Having said that, I would add that political work does not bring qualitative victories.

We believe that it is in our interest to maintain the dialogue regardless of what major or minor steps result from it. We hope that, with time and with the help of the peace-loving forces in the world and in the United States itself, the U.S. position will be influenced in favor of peace and in favor of our national and pan-Arab causes, and that thus the position of continuous support for Israel may end.

As regards calls for ending the dialogue, I do not believe that would be in the interest of the PLO or the Palestinian people, because there is no alternative to dialogue in order to discover one another's views. As far as we are concerned, we believe in the necessity of continuing the dialogue regardless of its nature and even if it achieves nothing that meets our aspirations.

[Ka'wash] Is there continuous coordination between you and Egypt on peace moves?

[Ahmad] There is coordination with Egypt just as there is coordination with the rest of the Arab brothers but, by virtue of its circumstances and diverse relations, Egypt plays a bigger and more important role in this connection.

[Ka'wash] Will President Mubarak convey your views to the U.S. Administration when he visits Washington?

[Ahmad] Yes, President Mubarak will convey to the U.S. Administration the PLO's and the Arab nation's views

regarding the settlement of the Palestinian question in particular and the Arab question in general.

[Ka'wash] Do you expect the United States to respond?

[Ahmad] With due respect to President Mubarak's role, we do not expect the United States to respond, because other politically important Arab brothers have visited the United States and the U.S. Administration has acknowledged the Arab position at the time, only to reaffirm after every visit its firm position in support of Israel. It always adopts and embraces Israeli plans and projects, the latest being Shamir's plan for elections in the occupied territory. It is up to the Arab nation and the Arab leaders to decide what moves to make and what influence and pressure to apply on the position of the United States and other countries. [passage omitted]

Official on Israeli Rejection of Egyptian Plan

NC0610215989 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2012 GMT
6 Oct 89

[Text] Amman, 6 Oct (MENA)—Shaykh 'Abd-al-Hamid al-Sa'ih, chairman of the Palestine National Council, says that today's rejection by the Israeli Inner Cabinet of the Egyptian 10-point plan is an indication that Israel is determined not to heed any UN resolution or appeal by the international community.

In a statement to MENA, al-Sa'ih said that Israel is a main obstacle to efforts by President Husni Mubarak and the Palestinians to arrive at a peaceful settlement in the region. He added that the Israeli rejection today is proof that the dominant power in Israel is the Likud bloc which does not want peace and which opposes any plan to establish peace in the region. He said: We are not surprised by the Likud bloc's rejection of the 10-point plan in which President Mubarak asks questions aimed at getting a decisive answer that might serve as a basis for a Palestinian-Israeli dialogue and for resolving the conflict in the region.

Shaykh al-Sa'ih called for a unified Arab position. He also called on the United States to adopt a firm stand and to halt the material and moral aid to Israel in order to force it to respond to the wish of the international community and accept the peace plan.

Palestinian Embassy To Open in Indonesia

JN0710212789 Baghdad Voice of the PLO
in Arabic 1935 GMT 7 Oct 89

[Text] Brother Abu-al-Lutf [Faruq Qaddumi], head of the PLO's Political Department, met with Indonesian Foreign Minister Ali Alatas in New York yesterday.

The Indonesian foreign minister said that the state of Palestine will inaugurate an embassy in Jakarta during the 3d week of this month. He added that the opening of a Palestinian Embassy in Jakarta is a logical step in light of Indonesia's support for the Palestinian people's struggle and its recognition of the state of Palestine.

Egypt**Mubarak To Meet With Libya's Al-Qadhdhafi***NC1010135889 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1320 GMT
10 Oct 89*

[Text] Al-Isma'iliyah, 10 Oct (MENA)—President Muhammad Husni Mubarak has announced that Egyptian-Libyan meetings are making progress, to the benefit of the two sisterly countries.

Asked whether he will meet with Libyan leader Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, the president said, Yes, I will meet with president Al-Qadhdhafi [title as received]. We will fix a date for that meeting, which will be announced in due course.

Mubarak was speaking at a meeting this morning with the commanders, officers, and soldiers of the 2d and 3d Armies in the al-Jala' camp in al-Isma'iliyah.

Abd-al-Majid on Israeli Rejection of DialogueNC0610200289 Cairo Domestic Serv. in Arabic
1830 GMT 6 Oct 89*

[Text] Dr 'Ismat 'Abd-al-Majid, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, has commented on the result of the Israeli vote on the Palestinian-Israeli dialogue by saying that the issue is still under discussion. He added that contacts are under way on this matter with the United States and Israel.

The Israeli inner cabinet earlier today rejected the Israeli Labor Party's proposal to hold a Palestinian-Israeli meeting in Cairo. Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir announced that three of the four points that the Labor Party had submitted contravene the Israeli Government's plan for elections in the occupied territories and would lead to including the PLO in the negotiations and to the establishment of an independent Palestinian state. Labor Party ministers who are members of the Israeli Inner Cabinet expressed extreme disappointment over the rejection to hold an Israeli-Palestinian meeting and affirmed that Shamir preferred to preserve his party rather than have peace and had shown the Likud's real face.

Palestinians React*NC0710131789 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1050 GMT
7 Oct 89*

[Text] Cairo, 7 Oct (MENA)—Various political circles have reacted to Israel's rejection of a proposal for Palestinian-Israeli talks in Cairo. Noting that Israel's rejection of this proposal had been expected, they called on the United States to intervene and bring pressure to bear on Israel if progress was to be made in the search for peace.

Zuhdi al-Qidrah, Fatah representative and PLO charge d'affaires in Cairo, stressed that the outcome of the Israeli minicabinet's vote was expected. He noted that

this rejection by Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir and the Likud bloc is a maneuver to gain time.

In a statement to MENA, al-Qidrah said this rejection is further confirmation of Israel's insistence on suppressing the intifadah of the Palestinian people in the occupied territories. He affirmed that the intifadah will continue until a Palestinian state is established on Palestinian soil. The Palestinian official called for Western and international pressure on the United States so that it in turn will pressure Israel to respond to the Palestinian peace call.

Fayiz Abu-Rahmah, head of the Palestinian Bar Association in the occupied Gaza Strip, emphasized that the Israeli vote had been expected. He said this vote reflects the differences within the ruling coalition in Israel, with the Labor Alignment supporting the proposal for an Israeli-Palestinian dialogue and the Likud bloc opposing it.

Abu-Rahmah, who is currently on a visit to Egypt along with a number of other figures from Gaza, referred to reports that members of the Labor Party have demanded that the party meet to see what should be done and that the party withdraw from the coalition. He doubted that the Labor Party would leave the government, adding that he believes the party will find a way to remain in the coalition by bridging the gap. Abu-Rahmah added that Shamir can change his position only if there is serious U.S. intervention to pressure him; otherwise, there will be no progress in the peace process.

In Tunis, PLO Executive Committee Member 'Abdallah Hurani said the Israeli vote has exposed the Israeli rulers' expansionist policy in defiance of international will, noting that their refusal to hold a dialogue with the Palestinians reveals that they are opposed to peace.

In a statement to a MENA correspondent in Tunis, Hurani said the Israeli stand underscores the positive attitude undertaken by the PLO and the Palestinian leadership in response to the peace initiatives as well as the will of the world community.

Hurani held the United States responsible for Israel's continued hostile policy. He said: We refer Israel's refusal to hold a dialogue to the U.S. Administration, whose support of Israeli policy encourages Shamir's government to take such stands. He noted in this respect the latest UN General Assembly resolution condemning Israel, adding that the U.S. Administration alone stood alongside Israel against the will of the international community and opposed this resolution.

Mubarak Comments*NC0810125189 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1138 GMT
8 Oct 89*

[Text] Cairo, 8 Oct (MENA)—In a statement at the end of the parade at the military academy today, President Husni Mubarak said: We are holding consultations and exchanging views with the United States and the State of

Palestine on the composition of a Palestinian delegation [to talks with Israel]. However, we do not speak or act for the Palestinians.

Asked whether the Israeli Inner Cabinet's decision [rejecting the Egyptian 10-point proposal] is considered final, the president said: This matter is still under discussion between us and the United States and no conclusion has yet been reached. He expressed the hope that a solution will be found.

Mubarak also answered a question on the formation of the Palestinian delegation, especially since Egypt and the United States are not authorized to choose the delegation members. He pointed out: We are holding consultations with the Palestinians and I cannot speak on their behalf or impose any one on them. We are holding consultations and exchanging views but we do not speak or act on their behalf.

U.S. To Mediate Egyptian-Israeli Crisis

JN1010132689 Cairo AL-WAFD in Arabic
8 Oct 89 p 1

[By 'Abd-al-Nabi 'Abd-al-Sattar]

[Text] Over the past few hours, the United States has intensified its efforts to check the deteriorating state of affairs between Egypt and Israel following the Israeli Inner Cabinet's rejection, the day before yesterday, of the Egyptian proposal to hold direct negotiations between an Israeli and a Palestinian delegation in Cairo to discuss elections in the occupied territories.

AL-WAFD has learned that U.S. Secretary of State James Baker during his telephone contact with Dr 'Ismat 'Abd-al-Majid, deputy prime minister and foreign minister on 6 October, had urged him not to issue a statement by the Egyptian Foreign Ministry about the Israeli Cabinet decision. This is to avoid exacerbating the tension between Cairo and Tel Aviv. Baker also appealed to 'Abd-al-Majid to stop the Egyptian verbal abuse of Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir. Diplomatic sources said that Baker promised 'Abd-al-Majid that he would bring more pressure to bear on Shamir and Likud leaders to convince them to respond to the peace efforts. The diplomatic sources added that Dennis Ross, who is expected to be dispatched on a shuttle tour between Egypt and Israel to contain the political crisis that emerged between them, will bring with him a new U.S. plan to reconcile the Egyptian and Israeli viewpoints.

'Abd-al-Majid Receives Israeli Ambassador

NC1010142089 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic
1230 GMT 10 Oct 89

[Text] Dr 'Ismat 'Abd-al-Majid, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, met with the Israeli ambassador in Cairo today. Afterward, the ambassador stated that the

meeting came within the framework of continuous contacts between the Egyptian and Israeli Governments on the peace process.

Foreign Ministry sources stated that Dr 'Abd-al-Majid's meeting with the Israeli ambassador took place within the context of Egyptian efforts to give momentum to the peace process. The meeting comes before the ambassador's departure for Israel to consult with his government over the current situation.

Iraqi Envoy Arrives With Saddam's Message

NC0810151689 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1330 GMT
8 Oct 89

[Text] Cairo, 8 Oct (MENA)—Akram 'Abd-al-Qadir, Iraqi justice minister and personal envoy of Iraqi President Saddam Husayn, arrived in Cairo from Amman this afternoon on a visit to Egypt, during which he will deliver a message to President Mubarak from President Saddam Husayn.

Yesterday the Iraqi envoy delivered a similar message to King Husayn of Jordan.

He is expected to head for the Yemen Arab Republic after concluding his visit to Cairo, which is part of a tour of the Arab Cooperation Council member states.

Petroleum Minister Leaves for Baghdad

NC0610152489 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1248 GMT
6 Oct 89

[Text] Cairo, 6 Oct (MENA)—'Abd-al-Hadi Qandil, minister of petroleum and mineral resources, left Cairo for Baghdad at noon today for an official 2-day visit to attend meetings of the oil ministers of the Arab Cooperation Council [ACC] states. The meetings will begin tomorrow, Saturday, and will last for 2 days.

Before leaving, 'Abd-al-Hadi Qandil said that the oil ministers of the ACC states, Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, and the Yemen Arab Republic, will discuss a plan for joint action in the fields of energy, petroleum, and natural gas.

He announced that Egypt will offer its expertise in establishing integrated projects and natural gas production facilities. It will also offer to establish various other projects with the aim of achieving the greatest possible benefit for the ACC states.

Sudanese Ambassador Departs; New Envoy Named

NC0810073689 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0658 GMT
8 Oct 89

[Text] Cairo, 8 Oct (MENA)—Sudanese Ambassador to Egypt al-Amin 'Abd-al-Latif al-Amin left Cairo early this morning at the end of his tour in Cairo. He will take up a new post at the Sudanese Foreign Ministry.

'Izz-al-Din Hamid will replace al-Amin as Sudan's ambassador to Egypt.

Senegal's Diouf on Dispute With Mauritania*NC0710221889 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2120 GMT
7 Oct 89*

[Text] Cairo, 7 Oct (MENA)—Senegalese President Abdou Diouf praised President Husni Mubarak's efforts to contain the crisis between Senegal and Mauritania. He said that these efforts display the wisdom and practical method characterizing President Mubarak and his competent and outstanding diplomatic staff.

In a statement to be published in AL-AHRAM's Sunday edition, Diouf emphasized his country's desire to find a peaceful solution to the dispute between Senegal and Mauritania through negotiations or mediation efforts. He pointed out that he is ready to hold a fruitful meeting with the Mauritanian president to end the differences. He said that he is also ready to put himself at "the disposal of a mediator" to assess and define the appropriate time for such a meeting.

Diouf said that in order to emerge from this crisis the root causes of this problem must be dealt with, particularly the border problem. The Mauritanian Government must abide by the OAU's principle providing that the existing borders at the time of the independence of the two countries must not be encroached upon. Afterwards comes the demarcation of the borders, which is a technical matter and experts can be entrusted with solving it. He denied that any foreign forces fan the dispute between Senegal and Mauritania. He stressed that his country has always tried to place the dispute within a bilateral framework out of its concern to preserve the OAU's entity.

Diouf described Egyptian-Senegalese relations as special because they are based on firm and old friendship and on history, geography, and common creed. He said that these ties acquired their characteristic nature from both countries' abidance by the lofty ideals of peace, justice, international solidarity, commitment to African unity, and on efforts to achieve coordination and understanding within the Islamic nation.

'Sources' Cited on Possible Cabinet Reshuffle*NC0610142089 Nicosia AL-MAWQIF AL-'ARABI
in Arabic 2 Oct 89 p 7*

[Text] Political sources in Cairo expect President Husni Mubarak to introduce sweeping political changes involving the formation of a new government, to replace the current one under Dr 'Atif Sidqi, and a new People's Assembly. Egyptian judiciary sources say that court rulings over the past 2 years have consistently disputed the legality of the 1987 parliamentary elections. Therefore, President Mubarak has no option but to dissolve the current People's Assembly and change it according to constitutional procedures, beginning with a general referendum and ending with general elections.

Political sources revealed that President Mubarak is about to examine several proposals concerning a new

election system based on the votes going to individual candidates rather than to party tickets. Many objections have been raised to the party ticket election system under which the last general elections were held 2 years ago.

Egyptian opposition sources cite other reasons for the Egyptian president's intention of dissolving the People's Assembly and forming a new government. Among these is the fact that the current government is expected to conclude its talks with the IMF sometime during the next few months. In that case, and despite the economic difficulties involved in a 40 percent increase in prices, a new government will be more likely to take over in a relatively stable atmosphere. This is a matter which Mubarak is apt to consider as the academic year is just beginning in the universities and the possibility of political and bread riots cannot be discounted.

Dr 'Atif 'Ubayd, minister of state for administrative development, had been the front runner for the prime minister's post. However, well-informed sources have told AL-MAWQIF AL-'ARABI that Planning Minister Dr Kamal al-Janzuri is the candidate most favored by the Egyptian president because of his recent success in rescheduling debts of \$8 billion in talks with the Paris Club. Health reasons prevent Dr Yusuf Wali, secretary general of the ruling National Democratic Party who is also the current agriculture minister, from assuming that responsibility for the moment.

Amid the current speculations, other sources said that Interior Minister Major General Zaki Badr heads the list of the ministers who will be dismissed. Security reports available to sources in direct touch with the Egyptian president, however, draw some red lines concerning the interior minister, whose "iron fist" policies have done much damage to the government's reputation over the past few years.

Mubarak Attends Military Parade in Cairo*NC0810223989*

[Editorial Report] Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic at 0855 GMT on 8 October begins a live relay of a military parade held at the military college grounds in Cairo to mark the anniversary of the 6 October war victory. The motorcade of President Husni Mubarak arrives at 0658 GMT. The president takes his place at the reviewing stand as the national anthem is played.

Following this, General Yusuf Sabri Abu-Talib, minister of defense and war production and commander in chief of the Armed Forces, delivers a 13-minute speech welcoming President Mubarak. He says that on this year's anniversary, Egypt has regained all its land. Abu-Talib then praises the way Mubarak conducted the battle to regain Tabah. Referring to the Armed Forces, Abu-Talib says: "Maintaining Armed Forces capable of defending the homeland's soil and its independence is one of your first political directives, and it is the primary goal of our military policy. We want Armed Forces capable of

defense and deterrence so that any adventurer will think twice before deciding to commit any aggression." Abu-Talib then assures the president of the high efficiency of the Armed Forces depending on "quality more than quantity." Abu-Talib refers to the tension in the region and says that the high cost of the losses in wars is being replaced by inciting civil wars, domestic intrigue, and acts of extremism and sabotage. As an example, he cites what is now happening in Lebanon and elsewhere. But, he adds, "Your Armed Forces know their role well, and they know that they have to fight on the front and defend in depth as well."

Speaking about the development and modernization of the Armed Forces, Abu-Talib says, "We are diversifying the sources of weapons to choose from, and we possess the most modern technology." He then refers to the local military industry, saying that the soldiers now possess Egyptian-made weapons and ammunition and antitank missiles, aircraft, and battery systems. He says that many states demand to be supplied with Egyptian military products. He also refers to the development and modification of old weapons. Abu-Talib then speaks about the Armed Forces' participation in the state's comprehensive development plan, saying that they have concentrated and will concentrate on the establishment "of the giant civilian projects which require expertise and equipment not available to the civilian sectors." He then addresses greetings to October war victims and heroes, led by "departed President Muhammad Anwar al-Sadat, the war and peace decisionmaker." The parade then begins at 0919 GMT.

Staff Brigadier General Salah Yamani comments on the parade. According to Yamani, a formation of 3 U.S.-made C-130 planes approaches the parade grounds. Paratroopers and shock troops then pass the reviewing stand. A formation of E2C's then flies over, according to Yamani. He says a formation of four French Alfajet aircraft then approaches the parade grounds, followed by a formation of MiG-21's. He lists various missiles and armored vehicles, all of which have been in Egypt's arsenal, which are moved past the reviewing stand. When T-54 tanks are moved past, the announcer notes this tank has "been modified with the cooperation of U.S. experts and has had its gun replaced with a 105-mm gun." T-62 and T-55 tanks are also exhibited, as are various modified artillery pieces, mechanical bridges, jeeps, and missiles such as the Hawkeye, Nile, and Amoun systems. Members of antitank missile units also march past, as do pontoon bridge builders.

After military cadets stage a parade to the accompaniment of martial music and songs, the relay ends at 1017 GMT when the announcer reports President Mubarak's departure.

Libya

Minister Wants 'Normal' Relations With U.S.

JN1010172489 Manama WAKH in English 1530 GMT
10 Oct 89

[Text] Abu Dhabi, Oct 10 (GNA)—Libyan Foreign Minister Jadallah 'Azzuz al-Talhi in remarks published today praised ties with the UAE [United Arab Emirates] and other Gulf states.

"They are excellent ties that should be taken as an example for relations among brothers," He told UAE 'AL-ITTIHAD' newspaper.

Interviewed in New York, Al-Talhi was quoted by the Abu Dhabi-based daily as saying Libya wanted to improve relations with the United States.

"Libya wants normal ties with the U.S. based on mutual respect and without conditions from the American side," he said.

He said tension in their relations has decreased due to what he called the "very rich political experience of President George Bush. [no closing quotation marks as received]

He said ties with neighboring Egypt have improved and the leaders of the two countries would meet soon but he did not mention a date or venue of the summit.

Al-Talhi urged joint Arab action to face Israel's threat after the launching of a long-range missile that fell about 400 km off the Libyan coast last month.

"The launching of the missile shows that the whole Arab region is within the reach of Israeli missiles. It is a serious threat that should be seriously considered by Arab states," he said.

International Editor Criticizes U.S. Maneuvers

LD1010195389 Tripoli JANA in English 1648 GMT
10 Oct 89

[Text] Tripoli, Al-Tumur [October] 10, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY—The U.S. Government has started conducting wide-ranging war manoeuvres in the Mediterranean. Britain, France, Greece, Italy, Spain, and Turkey are participating in them.

JANA's international affairs editor has strongly attacked these manoeuvres criticising vigorously the Western countries for conducting them.

He has stressed that these manoeuvres with such an arsenal of devastating weapons flagrantly threaten peace and security in the Mediterranean and its peoples. These hostile manoeuvres diametrically threaten air and naval navigation.

He adds that the Western camp by conducting these manoeuvres in the Mediterranean not only poses a threat

to the economic and commercial routes—rather, they harm the environment of the Mediterranean by contaminating its waters and destroying its natural life.

In addition to these dangers, the above manoeuvres give a justification for the other camp to bring in its war fleets in the Mediterranean region thereby making it a zone of military conflict conducive to harming the region and its peoples.

He, criticising the Western governments participating in these manoeuvres, has stressed that the participation of these governments in these manoeuvres makes them in the position contradicting the interests of the European peoples placing them in flagrant contradiction with the interests of these peoples economically and commercially.

He says that Great al-Jamahiriyah has more than once repeated its demand to transform the Mediterranean to a lake of peace, apart from stopping all the manoeuvres and military parades that threaten the peace and security of the Mediterranean.

These manoeuvres contradict with the return of peace coming forth from the soil of Great al-Jamahiriyah interacted with the will of the peoples of the Mediterranean to live in accord and friendship.

The editor continues to say that the call by Great al-Jamahiriyah to consolidate peace in the Mediterranean and strengthen the props of friendship among its peoples have come to fruition when the countries bordering the Mediterranean have witnessed demonstrations and massive people's rallies against such manoeuvres. He adds that the response by the peoples to the call given by the great Al-Fatih [September revolution] stressed the collective will to rid the Mediterranean from the factors of tension.

Concluding his comments, the editor has called on the U.S. Administration to withdraw its fleets from the waters of the Mediterranean to amass them instead in the U.S. territorial waters conducting its manoeuvres there in place of threatening peoples earth wide.

Correction to JANA Criticizes Report on Missile

LD1010123189

The following correction pertains to the item headlined "JANA Editor Criticizes Report on Missile," published in the 10 October Near East & South Asia DAILY REPORT, page 12:

page 12, column one, antepenultimate paragraph, first sentence, make read: ...is developing a ballistic missile which would... (changing "plastic" to "ballistic")

Mauritania

Government Rejects Peace Meeting With Senegal

AB1010202689 Libreville Africa No 1 in French
1830 GMT 10 Oct 89

[Text] The settlement of the Senegal-Mauritania conflict will certainly not occur tomorrow, to say the least. Nouakchott today rejected the proposal by Senegalese President Abdou Diouf to meet with his Mauritanian counterpart to seek a solution to the conflict between the two countries. Let us listen to the details from our correspondent Salim Medoum Salim in Nouakchott:

[Begin recording] Nouakchott has said no to the proposal by Senegalese President Abdou Diouf for a summit meeting with his Mauritanian counterpart, Colonel Maouiya Ould Sid'Ahmed Taya. Diouf stated recently in an interview with the Cairo daily AL AHRAM that he was prepared to meet President Ould Taya in order to find a lasting solution to the Senegalese-Mauritanian conflict. To this proposal, the Mauritanian Government responded that such a meeting, within the present context, would be useless. According to Mohamed Lemine Ould Ahmed, spokesman of the Nouakchott Government and minister of information, the recent reaction of President Abdou Diouf does not change anything. In other words, the Mauritanian information minister noted, as long as the serious problems are not taken into consideration by Dakar, any other step would be useless.

According to Nouakchott, the serious problems include interference in Mauritania's domestic affairs, the issue of the three Mauritanian families held hostages in Senegal against their will, the restoration of seized properties, and others. The Nouakchott Government has continued to accuse Senegal of blocking a solution by avoiding the serious problems of the conflict and raising the only border issue. Concerning the border issue, Mauritania recalled that it is out of the question to discuss it because the delimitation was done at the time the two countries gained independence. [end recording]

Sudan

Saddam's 'Personal Envoy' Delivers Message

JN0910095689 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0910 GMT
8 Oct 89

[Text] Khartoum, 9 Oct (INA)—Health Minister 'Abd-al-Salam Muhammad Sa'id, President Saddam Husayn's personal envoy to Lieutenant General 'Umar Hasan Ahmad al-Bashir, chairman of the National Salvation Revolution Command Council, left Khartoum this morning.

The Iraqi envoy, who arrived here yesterday, had delivered a message from the Iraqi president to the Sudanese leader on bilateral relations.

Al-Bashir Receives Message

JN0810162689 Baghdad Voice of the Masses
in Arabic 1300 GMT 8 Oct 89

[Text] Health Minister 'Abd-al-Salam Muhammad Sa'id, His Excellency President leader Saddam Husayn's envoy, today conveyed a message to General 'Umar Hasan Ahmad al-Bashir, chairman of Sudan's National Salvation Revolution Command Council. During the meeting Gen al-Bashir highly praised the genuine Arab positions of Iraq and its leader President Saddam Husayn toward Sudan and its people. He also voiced the pride of Sudan—leadership, people, and Armed Forces—in these positions, stressing that they have been adopted at the direct instructions of President leader Saddam Husayn.

Health Minister 'Abd-al-Salam Muhammad Sa'id, personal envoy of President leader Saddam Husayn, arrived in Khartoum early today.

Ethiopian Pilot Reportedly Granted Asylum

EA1010112589 Khartoum SUNA in English 0920 GMT
10 Oct 89

[Text] Khartoum, 10 October—An Ethiopian pilot who landed in the country 10 days ago has been granted political asylum in the country, an official source told SUNA yesterday, Monday. The source said the pilot is also given the go-ahead for traveling to the USA. The source did not elaborate.

Foreign Minister Meets Envoys in New York

EA0910092689 Omdurman Domestic Service in Arabic
0430 GMT 8 Oct 89

[Text] Foreign Minister Mr Ali Sahlul has had meetings on the sidelines of the current session of the UN General Assembly with the foreign ministers of the Yemeni Arab Republic, France, and Cuba. His excellency gave a full explanation of the developments of the situation in the country and the steps taken by the government to achieve peace and the convening of the national dialogue conference for peace. He also explained the positive results of the meeting that took place recently between a government delegation and a delegation from Garang's movement. He pointed out that another round of negotiations would be held after the end of the conference. He appealed to them to persuade John Garang to attend negotiations to find a final solution to the problem.

In his meeting with the French official, his excellency pointed out the improvement of Sudan's relations with its neighbors, particularly Chad. The foreign minister praised French aid for Sudan within the framework of humanitarian assistance. The French official expressed his hope that Sudan would be able to overcome its internal problems.

In his meeting with the Yemeni foreign minister, the latter praised Yemeni-Sudanese relations, pointing out the important role being played by Sudanese teachers in Yemen.

In the meeting between Mr Ali Sahlul and Cuba's foreign minister, the latter spoke of the issues on the General Assembly's agenda and on the withdrawal of his forces from Angola and Ethiopia. He also praised the improvement of Sudan's relations with Ethiopia, which would have a positive effect on conditions in the Horn of Africa. Mr Sahlul also pointed the concurrence of the stands of Sudan and Cuba towards the issues on the agenda of the Assembly, emanating from their membership of the Nonaligned Movement. Moreover, the meeting discussed the restoration of relations between the two countries.

Darfur Province Governor on Security Situation

PM1110103089 London AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAF
in Arabic 4 Oct 89 p 6

[Interview with Major General Abu-al-Qasim Ibrahim Muhammad, governor of Darfur Province, by Muhammad al-Shaykh Husayn in Al-Fashir; date not given]

[Excerpts] [Passage omitted] [Husayn] What is the nature of the security problem in Darfur and how far has the recent conference—held to reconcile Arabs and the Fur—helped to establish security in Darfur province?

[Muhammad] The security problem in Darfur has three aspects: problems across the borders, due mainly to the fact that the tribes between Sudan and the neighboring states are intermingled, which makes it difficult to distinguish between foreigners and ordinary citizens. Rights and duties are also interlinked, which facilitates the smuggling of commodities and essentials abroad. There are also traditions which differ from Sudanese traditions. For instance, a method emerged from across the borders which we have never experienced before, that is, the method of using force to acquire essentials, otherwise known as armed robbery.

The second aspect of the security problem is the tribal war problem. There are numerous reasons for it: first and foremost, friction on grazing lands. Furthermore, the desertification and drought which hit Darfur prompted some northern tribes to emigrate and settle in the South, thus occupying the positions of other tribes, which increased the friction. [passage omitted]

As for the third aspect, it is a natural result of the two previous problems: the armed robbery phenomenon. [passage omitted]

[Husayn] How optimistic are you in Darfur that the Algiers agreement on the Libyan-Chadian conflict can settle the question of foreign interference in Darfur?

[Muhammad] A neighbor is entirely influenced by his neighbor, because a neighbor is the final shelter for forces harmed in the other neighboring state.

Sudanese territory was influenced by the ongoing conflict in Chad and the Libyan-Chadian conflict over the Aouzou region. Certain armed forces entered Sudanese territory repeatedly, and that is a source of concern and alarm for the tribes resident in the areas where the foreign forces are stationed.

We are pleased with the Libyan-Chadian agreement and expect much good to result from it. We hope it will continue and not collapse, because it will obviously help to reduce foreign interference, as a result of which all secessionist forces would return, the two parties would exchange POW's, and security and peace would prevail in the region. [passage omitted]

Tribunals Formed According to Security Law

EA0710205489 Omdurman Domestic Service in English
1950 GMT 6 Oct 89

[Text] The legal counselor of the RCC [Revolution Command Council], brigadier lawyer Ahmad Mahmud, has announced the formation of four tribunals in accordance with the revolution's security law. Two of the four courts will operate in Khartoum District and one in each of Khartoum North and Omdurman. The legal counselor also announced the formation of a high court of appeal to receive appeals on the rulings of the revolution's security tribunals. He said all heads and members of the jury at the four tribunals shall be appointed from the judicial ranks.

Meanwhile, the president of the RCC yesterday signed the salvation's [as heard] Popular Committees' Act following its endorsement by the Council of Ministers. According to this act, four levels of salvation committees shall be formed. The first level is to be called the base committee and it is confined to the quarter, section, or village level, and another committee at the area level, and a third one at the provincial level, and the fourth committee at regional level. The legal counselor said these committees were aimed at safeguarding the achievements of the National Salvation Revolution, establishing the basis for national unity, eradicate sectarianism, party rules, and tribalism. Meanwhile, the base committees are charged with the supervision and distribution of supply commodities.

Army Commander on Upper Nile Security Situation

EA0910072089 Omdurman Domestic Service in Arabic
1700 GMT 7 Oct 89

[Text] Lieutenant Colonel al-Hadi 'Umar Ibrahim, commander of Battalion 104 of Renk, has stressed that the Armed Forces are in full control of the security situation in the military zone of Upper Nile, protecting agricultural projects, the citizens, and the Arab nomads in the region. He said that throughout this year, there had been

no security problems caused either by the outlaws or by individuals. The agricultural projects under cultivation indicate plentiful crops in spite of the delay of the rainy season this year. His excellency stressed the Armed Forces' commitment to the cease-fire.

Southerner Addresses Khartoum 'Peace Conference'

EA0910211189 (Clandestine) Radio of the Sudanese
People's Liberation Army in English 1300 GMT
9 Oct 89

[Excerpts] Since the present junta took over power in Khartoum and clamped down on the freedom of expression in any form, Radio SPLA [Sudanese People's Liberation Army] has adopted as a policy to broadcast opinions and views that cannot find expression in Khartoum. In doing so, the radio does not necessarily agree with the views expressed; this step is solely motivated by our commitment to democracy which definitely implies differences of opinion. In this spirit, Radio SPLA today presents the full text of a statement delivered on 23 September 1989 by Major General Peter Cyrillo to the so-called peace conference in Khartoum. Here now is the statement:

Twenty-three September 1989; place—in the Friendship Hall, Khartoum; the title—Critical Analysis of the Problems of the Sudan and the Prospects for Permanent Peace, a paper presented by Maj Gen, retired, PSC [passed staff college] Peter Cyrillo to the national conference on peace in the Sudan:

Mr Chairman, fellow conferees, ladies and gentlemen: I would like to take this opportunity to thank the leaders of the military regime for inviting me as a free and private citizen to attend and contribute to finding solutions to the problems of the Sudan. Allow me also to take this opportunity to congratulate the regime for calling this important meeting. However, I would like to point out at the outset that this meeting should be viewed as a forum for gathering ideas and suggestions for solving the problems of the Sudan. The citizens gathering here include some of the most highly respected personalities in this country who have been selected at random by the government to participate in these deliberations.

None of us gathered here today, therefore, can claim to represent any particular section of our society. Nor can we decide the fate of this country since we have not been mandated to do so by the Sudanese masses.

Mr Chairman: I wish also to emphasise that this gathering should not turn itself into another infamous 1947 Juba Conference, which brought disaster to the proper and orderly evolution of the Sudan into a viable nation. We all know how that conference was constituted and maneuvered into its controversial conclusions. Despite the overwhelming feelings and views of the southern Sudanese to maintain and safeguard their identity and cultural interests, these feelings and views were ignored

and the result is our meaningless independence which has been characterized by civil wars and wanton destruction of life and property.

Mr Chairman, ladies, and gentlemen: In addition to the above points, this meeting should not regard itself, or be regarded, as a substitute to a national constitutional conference where all the political forces in this country would have been represented to decide the future of this country and to mold a nation out of the present morass created by our divergent interests.

I would also like to remind and advise the meeting that these deliberations should be a continuation of the search for peace initiated in the past, for sufficient grounds have been covered on this area which cannot be brushed aside. It is my sincere and fervent hope that this august gathering will help in crystalizing the issues to be debated and to provide proposals for solutions to the problems that we face presently.

Mr Chairman: I think that for this meeting to come out with a meaningful peace formula it is necessary and indeed imperative to examine the root causes of the problems of the Sudan in its historical context in frankness and sobriety. [passage omitted]

Mr Chairman: Since 1956 governments in Khartoum have persistently used religion as a means of attaining and maintaining political power for the subjugation of non-Muslims in the country. This discriminatory policy has been partly responsible for some of the crises that the Sudan has undergone. The imposition in 1960 of Friday as the only weekly public holiday and a day of worship for all Sudanese citizens, regardless of faith, and the introduction of Shari'ah laws in 1983 by Numayri's dictatorial regime are cases in point. There is no doubt that these events contributed greatly in escalating the 17-year civil war and the current armed conflict. I would also like to point out here that the stand adopted by the present government of salvation on the question of these abhorrent laws so far is likely to thwart the peace effort.

Another aspect of domination, as perpetrated by the various central governments, is connected with the question of the cultural identity of the Sudan. While the Sudan is an African country, as evidenced by the 1956 population census, which registered the number of Africans in this country as 62 percent, certain northern political leaders have tended, fallaciously, to brand the Sudan as an Arab country. This certainly is absurd as the number of people with Arab blood in this country is only 38 percent. The minority ruling circles projected and promoted an inverted image of superiority over the majority Africans, who have been relegated to second-class citizens who to all purposes and intents must be Islamized and Arabized.

This cultural domination has been manifested in terms, for example, of the predominant use of Arabic in all the mass media organs, to the total exclusion of other

languages, the use of the Arabic language as a prerequisite for university entrance, its use as medium of instruction at all levels of education etc. Certainly this tendency on the part of the Arab ruling elite is dangerous and it does not augur well for a heterogeneous nation like the Sudan. [passage omitted]

Unfortunately, since independence, the country has vacillated between military and sectarian dictatorial systems of government. This continuous swing is indicative of the failure of the Sudanese people to promulgate a just and lasting constitution for the government of the state. Moreover, there have been repeated attempts by previous governments to undermine and emasculate the Constitution. This flagrant abuse of constitutional powers and authority has greatly contributed to the total breakdown of law and order in the country with consequent total disrespect for human rights, neglect of the country's social-economic development and encouragement of corruption. [passage omitted]

Mr Chairman: The need for the attainment of peace in the Sudan is paramount to all other needs, but to achieve this we must be bold enough to address the ills that have bedevilled this country since independence. Furthermore we must exercise utmost flexibility to tackle our basic problems as enumerated above.

Rigid and extreme positions will take us nowhere: If anything, they will make matters worse, which will lead into ultimate disintegration of this country. I am convinced, Mr Chairman, that the present regime of National Salvation which has taken the initiative to call for this important gathering is better placed to take the peace process forward more quickly because it does not have the obstacles experienced by the partisan and sectarian regimes. Above all, I am convinced that this government is in a position to bring peace to this country because the attainment of peace and the recovery of the economy are the basic reasons for the Army to take power from the sectarian regime of al-Sadiq al-Mahdi.

Mr Chairman: In view of what I have said in the preceding paragraphs, I would like to humbly make the following proposals towards the attainment of peace in the Sudan:

(1) State and Religion: This issue has been and is still controversial in the history of the Sudan. In my opinion, Mr Chairman, there must be a separation between religion and state. The Sudan must therefore be a secular state. The question of religion should be seen in the context of relationships between the individual and his God, while the state is for us all. Unless this is accepted, I think the chances of attaining permanent peace in the Sudan will be remote.

(2) Culture and identity of the Sudan: The myth that the Sudan is an Arab country must be abandoned forthwith, for, as I said earlier, the majority of Sudanese people are African. Hence the Sudan is an African country. However, I do recognize that there is a minority of Sudanese citizens with Arab blood. In this connection and in view

of the fact that Sudan borders some Arab countries, I cannot deny them cultural links with the Arab world, but any attempt to Arabize and culturize the Sudan, whether by coercion or otherwise, will no doubt jeopardize peace and stability. We must therefore identify ourselves as Sudanese, then develop our diverse cultures to forge a new, united and progressive Sudan.

(3) Equitable social-economic development: There is a great need on the part of the Sudan Government to commit itself to pursue a planned development policy and removal of unequal development among different regions of the country. Similarly, there is need for a fair and equitable distribution of the national wealth, development projects and various services. In line with the spirit the question of manpower development should be treated in a similar manner.

(4) System of government in the Sudan: Given the enormous size of the Sudan and the diversity of its people, their cultures and geographical locations, it is important that the Sudan works out a suitable system of government. It is my considered opinion that federalism based on the present nine or more regions is the most suitable system of government for the Sudan. While the country awaits for the formalization of federalism I would like to caution the government of national salvation that any attempt to reverse the present decentralization set-up in the form of regional governments is likely to spark further political unrest in the country. I do not need to remind you here that the people of Sudan are already used to the present system of decentralization. I would like to caution the government that at this stage, when all of us should be preoccupied with the attainment of peace in the country, there is no need to introduce such intermediary and redundant institutions like the Southern Council which do not only place unnecessary burdens on the government, but also serve as a source of wrangling for positions.

Mr Chairman, ladies and gentlemen, for these proposals to be implemented the convening of the national constitutional conference becomes a prerequisite. It is in such conference that all the political forces in the country, including SPLM/SPLA, would be afforded the opportunity to openly debate these crucial and basic problems affecting the Sudan. I would therefore like to urge this government to urgently prepare a schedule including an agenda for the convening of the national constitutional conference. As we are all aware, the SPLM/SPLA and the previous sectarian government of al-Sadiq al-Mahdi were left with important points of contention. These people are:

- (a) The scraping of the September laws;
- (b) The abrogation of military pacts;
- (c) The lifting of the state of emergency; and
- (b) The declaration of cease-fire.

Mr Chairman, I would like to urge this gathering to recommend the fulfillment of these prerequisites by the National Salvation government, to create a favorable

and conducive atmosphere for the convening of the national constitutional conference. I would particularly urge the government to issue a decree canceling the September 1983 laws. The argument for taking this matter to a plebiscite is out of the question, because these laws were decreed by the former dictator Numayri without any recourse to plebiscite and should therefore be removed in a similar manner.

Mr Chairman, in our endeavor to pursue the peace process to its logical conclusion I would like to call the National Salvation government to release all the political detainees who have no corruption or criminal charges so that they can fully participate in the deliberations of the expected national constitutional conference. It must be remembered that some of these political detainees are committed to bringing peaceful solutions to Sudan's problems. I also consider the continuation of detention of these innocent citizens as a flagrant violation of human rights. All these proposals, Mr Chairman, should be implemented if we are serious about the attainment of peace in this country. Thank you.

Official Warns Against 'False Claims'

E40910163089 Omdurman Domestic Service in Arabic
1930 GMT 8 Oct 89

[Text] Staff doctor, Lieutenant Colonel Tayyib Ibrahim Muhammad Khayr, minister of presidential affairs, has issued the following statement:

Lately it has been noted that there are certain groups in some government institutions and service facilities who claim to be trustees of the revolution by disseminating false claims, and by spreading lies purporting that there are committees charged with the liquidation of opposing elements. They claim to be the ones charged with that task.

Perhaps the aim of this manifest falsehood is to shake the confidence that exists between the National Salvation Revolution and all the workers in government institutions, bodies, and service facilities.

We wish to confirm that this subversive group and their subversive activities have become clear. The purpose of the activities is to spread fear and panic among government workers in order to hinder the running of official work and to detract from the excellent performance which has begun to filter into the corridors of public service following the measures which are under way within the framework of the national salvation revolution's strategy of reforming and rehabilitating public service facilities.

This is well-known to the masses working in state public departments, as they are witnessing today the imposition of measures taken to bring general discipline into public service units, and this is the first success and a sign of the required stability in the public service machinery.

We hereby warn those who stir up such false claims that their destructive endeavors are rejected as their objectives and goals are known, and that the revolution will curb this frivolous attitude by settling one of the most important factors in securing the course of the revolution by countering this disgraceful direction. This is therefore a chance for these people to correct themselves before they are touched by the sword of law that maintains peace and social security in state utilities.

Agricultural Production Fall Causes Food Shortage

*EA1010195689 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1440 GMT
10 Oct 89*

[Text] Al-Abyad, Sudan, 10 Oct (SUNA)—Mr Yusuf Hamid Muhammad Nur, first executive officer of the assembly of Kaduqli in southern Kurdufan, has appealed to the regional government to act to establish food security in the area in order to cover the food shortage brought about by a fall in agricultural production this year.

Mr Yusuf said in a press statement to SUNA that, in spite of the plentiful rains this season, the security situation and the instability affecting the farmers in their villages had caused their migration to the town of Kaduqli and left them unable to carry out their farming activities, particularly in the southern [word indistinct] and western districts of the area [words indistinct]. He added that agriculture had been most concentrated—although sparsely so—in the northern part of southern Kurdufan.

The area executive officer said that production in the area had been insufficient, stressing that large quantities of sorghum would have to be supplied to make good the (?large) shortfall.

Tunisia

Saddam Husayn's Envoy Arrives in Tunis 9 Oct

*JN0910153089 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1355 GMT
9 Oct 89*

[Text] Tunis, 9 Oct (INA)—Arshad al-Zibari, [Iraqi] minister of state and President Saddam Husayn's envoy to his brother Tunisian President Zine El Abidine Ben Ali, arrived here today.

The presidential envoy carries a message dealing with bilateral relations and current Arab issues.

Irshad al-Zibri will also hand a similar message from President Saddam Husayn to Yasir 'Arafat, president of the State of Palestine.

It is worth mentioning that earlier today the minister of state delivered President Saddam Husayn's message to Libyan leader Mu'ammar al-Qadhafi.

Delivers Messages

*JN1010155689 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1300 GMT
10 Oct 89*

[Text] Tunis, 10 Oct (INA)—Iraqi State Minister Arshad al-Zibari, President Saddam Husayn's envoy, delivered a message from the president to Tunisian President Zine El Abidine Ben Ali.

Al-Zibari delivered President Saddam Husayn's message when he was received by President Zine El Abidine Ben Ali here today.

President Saddam Husayn's envoy delivered a similar message to State of Palestine President Yasir 'Arafat when he was received by 'Arafat here today.

PDRY**Press Statement Issued After YSP Session**

*EA0410170289 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic
1900 GMT 2 Oct 89*

[Text] Brothers: Here is a press statement on the 16th ordinary session of the Yemeni Socialist Party [YSP] Central Committee.

The YSP Central Committee held its 16th ordinary session from 30 September to 1 October 1989 under the chairmanship of Brother Ali Salim al-Bid, secretary general of the party's Central Committee. The proceedings of the session concentrated on the discussion of a number of issues related to the comprehensive political and economic reform, as set out in the political report issued by the Political Bureau and the Secretariat of the party Central Committee. The Central Committee also discussed a number of issues related to party and organizational matters, economic and cultural conditions, foreign policy, and a number of other issues on its agenda.

The session was held in the context of the celebration of the 27th anniversary of the glorious 26 September revolution and preparations for the celebration of the 26th anniversary of the illustrious 14 October revolution. The Central Committee saluted the Yemeni masses on the occasion of the anniversary of the September revolution, which, once and for all, put an end to the sacerdotal imamate in the northern part of the homeland and opened up vast horizons for the social emancipation, economic liberation, and construction of a new future for the Yemeni masses.

The importance of the session was heightened by virtue of its taking place in the context of the proliferation of political and intellectual activity in our country, which has been characterized by the wide participation of party and mass organizations and has occurred in an atmosphere of democracy and openness, which has facilitated the expression of ideas, comments, and proposals of a practical nature, enriching the policies of the document on comprehensive political and economic reform.

The Central Committee devoted part of its session to a discussion of the political report issued by the Political Bureau and the Secretariat and attached particular importance to the results of the party discussions on the draft reform bill and to the views of the party organizations in the governorates and provinces and of the basic organizations on the reform policy outlined in the draft document.

From this feedback, it was clear that the reforms enjoyed general party support and embraced the priorities of developing the revolution, invigorating its performance, and improving the working methods of the party, state, government, mass, and popular organizations in order to guarantee the creation of circumstances more conducive to successful economic and social development, the

entrenchment of democratic practices, and the broadening of the social and mass base of our national democratic system in order to ensure our future progress.

The Central Committee stressed that the comprehensive political and economic reform had exposed the necessity of not only correcting the mistakes of the past, but also of ensuring the successful introduction of the wishes of our national democratic system.

The Central Committee stated that the ongoing process of reform included the construction of an integrated and philosophical vision of our system and instruments to accomplish a comprehensive reform throughout at one and the same time, and achieve an interlinked operation that would be difficult to dismantle and would prevent the favoring of any part of it at the expense of another.

The Central Committee stressed the need to establish a suitable mechanism to consider the views of party members and the masses, not only on the reform, but also on the other issues of importance to the revolution.

The Central Committee stated that this year's elections for the local people's assemblies were very important, inasmuch as they constituted the first attempt to effect democratic practices under the new elections law following the announcement that comprehensive reform would proceed, with democracy as one of its primary aims.

The discussions confirmed that the principle aims of the comprehensive political and economic reform were: to take action with regard to the economic and living conditions of our masses, inasmuch as these conditions constitute the real challenge facing the party and the people, to strengthen the economic sectors, and particularly to strengthen the role and performance of the public and cooperative sectors, and to safeguard and enhance the effectiveness of national capital in developing the national economy in the fields of housing, tourism, agriculture, and various other aspects of life.

The discussions confirmed the importance of centralizing economic resources; curtailing administrative overstaffing [taqlis al-dukhum al-idariyyah]; restructuring economically unprofitable organizations; and giving greater independence to certain economic organizations, freeing them from restrictions which obstructed their activities, applying the principle of economic accountability, reducing taxation on the materials used by them, particularly where their production was for export, and guaranteeing the protection of their productivity and the disposal of their products through the three marketing channels.

The Central Committee stressed the importance of maintaining the national democratic system's achievements in the fields of instruction, education, and health, and in stabilizing food prices, since these are the features which indicate the patriotic and humane identity of our national democratic system.

The discussions referred to the importance of attending to the party's internal affairs by improving current procedures with the aim of strengthening the party's role in society. The Central Committee stressed the need to broaden the scope of democracy within the party by developing the party electoral system; enshrining the legality of pluralism; and encouraging freedom of debate and dialogue and the freedom of the party member to think independently. This should be achieved according to clear criteria and within the framework of the system regulating such affairs within the party.

The discussions touched on the need to set to right the overstaffing [tadakhkhum] in the party apparatus in a precise and rational way so as to avoid adding to the burden of concealed [muqanna] unemployment in the country.

The discussions also covered the social organizations, stressing the need to strengthen their democratic nature, to draw a distinction between them and the party and government organizations and bodies to discontinue many of their unnecessary courses [halaqat], to merge departments, sections, and committees whose existence is unjustifiable and to extend the functions of the people's defense committees in such a way as to enable all sections of society currently participating in the national democratic revolution to participate in them.

The Central Committee stressed the importance of freeing cultural pursuits and information from formalism and alienation, solving the problems of party indoctrination, developing the scope of political action among the masses by perfecting ways of addressing them, and avoiding those methods which have weakened party indoctrination.

The Central Committee stressed the need to develop the quality and style of information, to develop the media to encourage responsible discussion and practical criticism; and to avoid distortion, vilification, vituperation, and controversy. The Central Committee stressed the need to expedite the introduction of a press law codifying Yemeni information convention, based on the experiences of the Yemeni press, the aims of the Yemeni revolution, and the nature of the country's current stage of development. The Central Committee also stressed the need to afford a wide scope to opinions and diverging opinions in the media and to enable the press to perform its role in the work of reform and revolutionary renewal in society.

The Central Committee called for the enhancement of the role of the mass media in promoting national culture and developing patriotic [watani] and national [qawmi] consciousness, to vitalize our cultural heritage and bring about the flowering of our cultural life.

In reference to the relations between the leaderships of the two parts of the homeland and their efforts to bring about Yemeni unity, the Central Committee expressed satisfaction at the atmosphere of mutual understanding dominating the enthusiastic and unremitting advance

along the road of unification and at the creation of an atmosphere conducive to the shared confidence in the spirit of brotherhood, which is in the interests of our Yemeni people and will prepare the way for the achievement of the highest hopes in the shape of Yemeni unity and the bringing together of all Yemenis under the aegis of a democratic state.

The Central Committee devoted particular attention to the vital issues being faced by our people at the current stage of unification, which is that of strengthening it and finding new avenues for unificatory development, particularly in agriculture, industry, and employment projects, which are aimed at guaranteeing stable food supplies throughout Yemen, unifying the market, implementing economic and social development within the framework of integration and coordination, and strengthening the process of economic progress in Yemen in order to create a material base in preparation for the establishment of Yemeni unity within the context of national democracy.

In addition to stressing the importance of joint economic projects, the Central Committee considered that a suitable moment had arrived to embark upon educational syllabuses, giving consideration to uniting certain political activities in the internal and external spheres, and creating new forms of unificatory activities based on current unificatory agreements and the mutual understanding and confidence between the leaderships of the two parts.

Between the two sessions, the Central Committee also considered the Political Bureau's external activities at party, government, and mass levels and praised its active role in strengthening the relations of our party and country with fraternal and friendly parties and states and with international and regional organizations.

The Central Committee was briefed on the outcome of the visits by the Political Bureau member and chairman of the Presidium to Libya and Jordan and the visit paid by the Political Bureau member and chairman of the Council of Ministers to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, which had demonstrated our country's commitment to developing fraternal and cooperative relations with these fraternal countries in the service of mutual interest and the strengthening of solidarity and cooperation.

The Central Committee expressed satisfaction at the results of the meetings and consultations undertaken by our country's delegation with the Arab, African, and other delegations participating in the conference of the ninth Nonaligned Movement in Belgrade from 4 to 7 September. The Central Committee considered that the conference had served to contribute toward the strengthening of international efforts to bring about peace, the consolidation of security and stability, the resolution of regional problems by political and peaceful means, and the creation of circumstances conducive to the solving of the economic problems which arise out of the imbalance in international economic relations.

Turning to the Palestinian cause, the Central Committee reiterated its unchanging stance on the struggle of the Arab Palestinian people, led by the PLO—who are the sole legitimate representatives of the Palestinian people—who are seeking the right to determine their own fate and to establish an independent Palestinian state. In this respect the Central Committee hailed the steadfastness of the Palestinian people in the occupied territories and their heroic uprising, calling upon all the Arab states to discharge their national responsibilities and support them so as to enable them to realize their aspirations.

The Central Committee expressed appreciation of the efforts of the Arab League and the tripartite Arab committee, appointed by the Dar al-Bayda summit, to resolve the Lebanese crisis on the basis of national reconciliation between the sons of fraternal Lebanon, to bring about peace in Lebanon, and to safeguard its unity, sovereignty, and Arabism.

The Central Committee reaffirmed Democratic Yemen's determination that the Horn of Africa and Red Sea region should remain a region of security and peace, expressing Democratic Yemen's readiness to persevere with its efforts with all parties in the search for ways to peacefully resolve all the disputes affecting the area.

The Central Committee registered its satisfaction over the expanding relations between our party and branches of the national liberation movement. It praised the efforts made by the Political Bureau, with a large number of delegations of Arab and world liberation movements, to strengthen relations with these forces.

The Central Committee expressed its high level of appreciation at many types of support being provided by the friendly USSR and other socialist countries to our country and people, with the aim of helping us to overcome the economic difficulties hindering our sustained progress.

The Central Committee also expressed satisfaction at the growth of relations between our country and the countries of Western Europe, based on mutual interest and the joint desire to develop cooperation in various fields.

Yemen Arab Republic

Al-Iryani Delivers Speech at United Nations

*JNo710144689 Sanaa Domestic Service in Arabic
2000 GMT 6 Oct 89*

[Excerpts] Brother Dr 'Abd-al-Karim al-Iryani, deputy prime minister, foreign minister, and Standing Committee member, tonight delivered our country's speech before the 44th session of the UN General Assembly in New York. In this speech, Al-Iryani affirmed that the comprehensive and valuable report submitted by the secretary general of the United Nations on the work undertaken last year inspires hope that the world organization shall indeed succeed in fulfilling its tasks of preserving world peace and security and strengthening

the role for which it was established to prove to the world community that it is the quarter solely responsible for solving all the problems facing our modern world. Best proof of that was the progress we witnessed last year on the path of peace concerning many international issues, such as Afghanistan, Namibia, Cambodia, Western Sahara, and last but not least the calm witnessed on the Iraq-Iran border. [passage omitted]

He added: Despite the international optimism resulting from the settlement of regional and international issues by peaceful means, the situation in the Middle East is still dangerous and constitutes a threat to peace not only in the region, but in the entire world, due to Israel's aggressive policy against the Palestinian people, who are demanding their legitimate rights and find only murder, torture, demolition of houses, and all forms of coercion, injustice, and bestiality contrary to international laws and norms and human rights. Despite that, those who incessantly speak about human rights ignore Israel's practices. In fact, a superpower refrains from voting for any resolution condemning the Zionist entity, despite world consensus in condemning these savage practices.

In his speech, Al-Iryani affirmed our country's support for the efforts being exerted to achieve just and honorable peace in the Middle East, especially the positive resolutions adopted by the Palestine National Council last November in Algiers and which were confirmed later by brother Yasir 'Arafat, president of the state of Palestine, during the special UN General Assembly debate of the Palestine question in Geneva. Al-Iryani called on the international community to assume its responsibility toward the deteriorating conditions in the occupied territory and to force the Zionist entity to respond to the call of peace by withdrawing from the Arab territories it has occupied since 1967 and sitting at the negotiation table with the parties concerned. The talks should be headed by the PLO, the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people and should proceed under the umbrella of an international peace conference sponsored by the United Nations so the Palestinians can achieve their right to return to their land, determine their destiny, and establish their independent state on their national soil. Al-Iryani affirmed that under the UN Charter, the main responsibility for achieving this objective essentially falls on the five permanent member states of the UN Security Council.

Regarding the Lebanese issue, the brother deputy prime minister said that the efforts being exerted by the Arab tripartite committee, stemming from the extraordinary Arab summit, herald good results and prompt optimism, thanks to the cooperation of all the parties concerned with the committee, and the sincere desire and common conviction by all sides that the solution of the Lebanese crisis is only possible through political dialogue and by peaceful means.

In his speech, brother Al-Iryani expressed our country's appreciation to fraternal Iraq for quickly accepting UN Security Council Resolution 598, which Iran only

accepted a year later. He also expressed our country's extreme concern over the continuation of the state of no war and no peace between the two countries.

The brother foreign minister said: Achieving security and stability in the Horn of Africa and entrenching the principles of good neighborliness and noninterference in other people's affairs are foremost concerns in our country's regional policy. Therefore, we welcome the positive developments witnessed by political relations between the countries of the Horn of Africa. We also welcome the policy of cooperation and understanding between the Government of fraternal Sudan and the Republic of Ethiopia. We also support the new peace initiative announced by the Ethiopian Government concerning the situation in Eritrea which led to negotiations under the sponsorship of former U.S. President Jimmy Carter. The Yemen Arab Republic, while welcoming the decision of the two negotiating sides to choose its capital Sanaa, among the venues for holding these negotiations, expresses its willingness to make every possible effort to enable both sides to reach a just and honorable solution,

guaranteeing for the Red Sea area and the littoral states peace, stability, and constructive cooperation for the well-being of their peoples, and their progress and prosperity. [passage omitted]

The deputy prime minister and foreign minister concluded his speech by saying: The democratic process on the path of development and the achievement of Yemeni unity is being further entrenched every day in our country, thanks to the wisdom of its political leadership represented by President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, president of the Republic, commander in chief of the Armed Forces, and secretary general of the General People's Congress. He added: It pleases me also to refer to the joint steps which our country has taken with its sisters: the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, the Iraqi Republic, and Egypt by announcing the Arab Cooperation Council which seeks to achieve the highest levels of cooperation, coordination, and integration among its states in the economic, cultural, and social fields prior to achieving broader cooperation and integration among the Arab states.

'Aziz Delivers Message on POW's to UN Council*JN1010211689 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1814 GMT
10 Oct 89*

[Text] United Nations, 10 Oct (INA) — Tariq 'Aziz, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, expressed Iraq's appreciation for the UN Security Council's efforts aimed at exchanging POW's between Iraq and Iran.

In a message distributed today to the members of the UN Security Council, the foreign minister said that the Iraqi Government greatly appreciated the Security Council members' interest in this cause.

Mr Tariq 'Aziz pointed out that Iraq had indicated its readiness a year ago to respond immediately to any proposals by the International Committee of the Red Cross to start a complete and comprehensive exchange of POW's. Such an exchange would come in accordance with the third article of the 1949 Geneva Convention and would need the approval of the Iranian side to proceed in accordance with this agreement.

Mr 'Aziz added that the Iraqi Government's position remains firm and that we are taking this opportunity to reiterate it.

UN Letter Calls for End to Iranian 'Violations'*JN1010172089 Baghdad INA in English 1560 GMT
10 Oct 89*

[Text] United Nations, Oct. 9, INA—Iraq has accused Iran of violating international law by violating the diplomatic sanctity of the Iraqi Embassy in Tehran.

In a letter submitted to U.N. Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar and distributed to the Security Council yesterday, Iraqi Ambassador to the U.N. 'Abd-al-Amir al-Anbari explained that in December 1987, in accordance with the the Iranian side, agreement was reached between Iraq and Iran through a Turkish Government intermediary on the closure of the buildings occupied by their embassies and the ambassadorial residences in their respective capitals. The letter also explained that an agreement was reached on the recall of both countries' remaining officials and on the consignment of all buildings and installations belonging to them to the care of the embassies of the Republic of Turkey in Baghdad and Tehran.

The Iraqi letter said that last month Turkey informed the Iraqi Foreign Ministry that the Turkish Embassy in Tehran in the course of a routine periodic inspection of the Iraqi Embassy there, had observe that a group of so-called "Revolutionary Guards" had occupied the residence and were engaged in construction work in the garden and entryway and that it was possible that modifications were also being made to the residence itself. The group refused to let the Turkish diplomats enter the residence and to comply with their request that they stop what they were doing. An Iraqi vehicle was also reported missing from the embassy garage.

Receiving no response from its inquiries to the Iranian foreign minister about the matter, the Turkish Embassy conducted a second inspection tour and found that a new structure was being built on the grounds of the Iraqi Embassy.

After giving Tehran a long period of time to remedy the situation and getting no results, Turkish officials decided they could remain silent no longer and informed Iraq about the events.

In his letter, Ambassador al-Anbari charged that the conduct of the Iranians "constitutes a flagrant violation of the rules of international law relating to the inviolability of diplomatic buildings and installations, as established by international custom and as embodied in the 1961 Vienna Convention on diplomatic relations, which is pending on both countries."

The Iraqi letter said that such behavior is similar to that engaged in by the Iranian regime in 1970 and 1980, when it committed a large number of breaches of the inviolability of the Iraqi Embassy in Tehran and the Iraqi Consulate in Mohammerah [Khorramshahr] in the context of the preparations for hostilities against Iraq which culminated in the wide-scale armed aggression of Sept. 4, 1980.

"These illegal actions against the inviolability of diplomatic installations by an Iranian regime that is known throughout the world for its previous involvement in similarly grave cases merit the condemnation of the international community," Iraq stated, adding that Iraq "reserves in full its right to act in any way it deems appropriate to protect its interests if the Iranian authorities are not deterred from such disgraceful conduct."

In conclusion, the letter stated that the Iraqi Government "holds the Iranian Government fully responsible before the international community for these internationally wrongful acts under the rules of international law, and it reserves all of the rights accorded to it by those rules."

CSSR Foreign Trade Minister Visits Baghdad**Arrives With Delegation***JN1010065489 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic
2100 GMT 9 Oct 89*

[Text] CSSR Foreign Trade Minister Jan Sterba and his delegation arrived in Baghdad this evening on a visit to Iraq that will last several days. He was received at the airport by Labor and Social Affairs Minister Umid Midhat Mubarak.

Meets Trade Minister Salih*JN1010142089 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1255 GMT
10 Oct 89*

[Text] Baghdad, 10 Oct (INA) — Trade Minister Muhammad Mahdi Salih met here today with CSSR Foreign Trade Minister Jan Sterba.

During the meeting, they discussed economic and trade cooperation relations between the two countries, means of promoting them, and the agenda for the ninth round of talks of the joint Iraqi-Czechoslovak committee for economic, trade, and technical cooperation. Those talks will be held in Baghdad at the end of this year.

Received by Industry Minister

JN1010151689 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1320 GMT
10 Oct 89

[Text] Baghdad, 10 Oct (INA)—Kamil Hasan, minister of industry and military industrialization, received today CSSR Foreign Trade Minister Jan Sterba.

During the meeting, they reviewed bilateral industrial relations and means of promoting industrial cooperation between the two countries.

Oil Minister Meets Egyptian Counterpart

JN0910152189 Baghdad INA in English 1440 GMT
9 Oct 89

[Text] Baghdad, Oct. 9, INA—Mr 'Isam 'Abd-al-Rahim, Iraqi minister of oil, met today with Dr 'Abd-al-Hadi Qandil, Egyptian minister of oil and minerals.

During the meeting, the two ministers discussed bilateral relations in the field of oil industry and exchange of expertise in service of developing oil and gas in the Arab Cooperation Council member-states.

Saddam Issues Decrees, Shuffles Ministers

Relieves Acting Minister

JN0710193289 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic
1700 GMT 7 Oct 89

["Text" of Presidential Decree No. 494]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Presidential Decree No. 494. In accordance with the provisions contained in Paragraph D of Article No. 58 of the Constitution, we decree the following:

First, Acting Agriculture and Irrigation Minister Dr 'Abdallah Badr Danuk shall be relieved of his post.

Second, he shall be assigned within the strength of the Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research. Competent ministers shall implement this decree.

Written in Baghdad on 7 October 1989.

[Signed] Saddam Husayn, president of the Republic.

Relieves Finance Minister

JN0710180889 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic
1700 GMT 7 Oct 89

["Text" of Presidential Decree No. 495]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Presidential Decree No. 495. In accordance with the provisions contained in Paragraph D of Article No. 58 of the Constitution, we decree the following:

First, Finance Minister Hikmat 'Umar Mukhaylif shall be relieved of his post.

Second, he shall be appointed within the strength of the Ministry of Planning in accordance with the provisions contained in the first paragraph of the Revolution Command Council Decree No. 170 issued on 14 February 1988. Competent ministers shall implement this decree.

Written in Baghdad on 7 October 1989.

[Signed] Saddam Husayn, president of the Republic.

Acting Finance Minister Named

JN0710192689 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic
1700 GMT 7 Oct 89

["Text" of Presidential Decree No. 496]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Presidential Decree No. 496. In accordance with the provisions contained in Paragraph D of Article No. 58 of the Constitution, we decree the following:

Trade Minister Dr Muhammad Mahdi Salih shall serve as acting minister of finance. Competent ministers shall implement this decree.

Written in Baghdad on 7 October 1989.

[Signed] Saddam Husayn, president of the Republic.

Talks With British Foreign Secretary 'Cold'

TA1110072589 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST
in English 11 Oct 89 p 1

[Report by diplomatic correspondent Menahem Shalev]

[Excerpts] Foreign Minister Arens' recent meeting with newly-appointed British Foreign Secretary John Major at the UN General Assembly, was, as the British might put it, "a trifle unpleasant."

Foreign Ministry sources in Jerusalem, characterized it more bluntly as "absolutely the worst" of Arens's 30-odd meetings with prime ministers and foreign ministers in New York.

"I am not in a court of law, and I see no need to defend myself," the usually mild-mannered Arens' snapped testily in reply to Major's comment that the foreign minister's presentation of the reason for Israel's presence in the West Bank was "an explanation—not a defence."

Arens had explained that Israel occupied the area as a direct result of Jordanian aggression in 1967.

Or, following Arens's explanations of Israel's security concerns in South Lebanon, and the lack of symmetry between the Israeli and Syrian presence in that country, Major remarked: "Well, the problem there is that Israel seems to be expanding all the time."

The sources said that the atmosphere at the meeting was "cold and tense." [passage omitted]

Arens invited Major to visit Israel. Major replied that such a visit might be possible "in due course" and, naturally, in the context of a wide tour of the area.

U.S. Informed PLO Cannot Have Role in Talks

TA1110064789 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST
in English 11 Oct 89 pp 1, 12

[Report by Menahem Shalev, Wolf Blitzer, Dan Petteanu, and David Rudge]

[Excerpt] Jerusalem has informed Washington that it will not agree to proposals aimed at achieving a dialogue with the Palestinians if the PLO or its representatives are given any role in the process.

This message was conveyed to the U.S. in the recent consultations over Secretary of State James Baker's proposals, which arrived here at the end of last week.

Israel, it is understood, is seeking some form of prior understanding with the U.S. before agreeing to Baker's offer.

At the same time, well-placed Likud sources said that yesterday's contacts between Baker and Foreign Minister Moshe Arens had yielded "some progress" on the role Israel will play in determining the makeup of the Palestinian delegation. Prime Minister Shamir and Arens, who are pressing for an Israeli veto on Palestinian

appointees, had felt they did not have enough influence over Palestinian representation.

Labour sources charged last night that Shamir and Arens have failed to bring Baker's formulas or their responses to the attention of the "forum of four" top ministers or any of the Labour ministers.

Ambassador to Egypt Shim'on Shamir, who is to return to Jerusalem today for consultations, yesterday discussed the Baker offer with Egyptian Foreign Minister 'Ismat 'Abd-al-Majid.

PLO chief Yasir 'Arafat is expected to arrive in Cairo on Friday for talks with Egyptian leaders on the response to Baker's offer.

The State Department is maintaining close contacts with Cairo over Baker's offer. Egypt, at this point, says it will not speak for the PLO and that Palestinians from both inside and outside the territories must be included in any negotiating team.

But Likud sources said yesterday that Baker must stand by his public announcement in a press conference in Washington on October 2, according to which Israel, Egypt and the U.S. will "determine" the makeup of the Palestinian delegation. The Likud sources said that Baker's conveyed formulas fall short of his public offer, and that the secretary must stand by his previous formulation.

Vice Premier Shim'on Peres expressed doubt yesterday about whether the current contacts will break the diplomatic deadlock. "But if the Americans want to make another effort—we will wait for them," he said while touring the north.

Sources in Jerusalem noted yesterday that Shamir's demand that the PLO not be given a role presents a major obstacle for the administration—which induced Egypt in the first place to try to get the PLO to appoint Palestinians to a negotiating team on elections. [passage omitted].

Peres Backs Favorable Response to Baker's Points

TA1110063389 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
0505 GMT 11 Oct 89

[Telephone interview with Vice Prime Minister Shim'on Peres by Arye Golan—live]

[Excerpt] [Passage omitted] [Golan] Last night, the United States published Baker's five points. Can those points, in your view, advance our dialogue with the Palestinians? Should Israel respond favorably to Baker's detailed proposal?

[Peres] Yes, I believe so. Look, if we want to talk with the Palestinians, we have to accept them as they are. I do not see any chance to change the Palestinians, their links, and their desires within the next 10 years. We should be honest about it. If we say: immediate elections in the territories—and that is what we said—it means elections for the Palestinian people as they are now; and everybody, every Likud

member including the prime minister and the members of the government, knows what that means. We insisted that negotiations be with the inhabitants of the territories—not with the PLO. That can be achieved. It does not mean that the wishes and links of the inhabitants of the territories can be changed or severed.

[Golan] Do you also believe that in retrospect, the rejection of your proposal by the Inner Cabinet spurred the political process?

[Peres] Yes, I believe so because it at least committed the United States and others to come forward with alternatives. We made our proposals because for the first time we were presented with an official Arab paper that made two proposals acceptable to us: The first, convening a meeting in Egypt between Palestinian and Israeli delegations; and second, inviting a delegation basically made up of inhabitants of the territories, and not PLO members. All these proposals basically overlap each other in various areas. I would be very happy if there were an improvement in the language, in the shape, and in the contents. Why not?

[Golan] In that case, we will wait and see what political developments there are. I thank you very much Vice Prime Minister Shim'on Peres.

[Peres] All the best.

Shim'on Peres Delaying Visit to Soviet Union

TA110090989 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew
0600 GMT 11 Oct 89

[Report by economic affairs correspondent Yaron Kulas]

[Text] Vice Prime Minister Shim'on Peres' bureau is taking care to avoid getting caught in an embarrassing situation, as happened to Agriculture Minister Avraham Katz-Oz, who was on his way to the USSR but did not receive an entry visa. The Soviet Peace Committee, Peres' host in Moscow, is pushing for a visit within 10 days, but the finance minister's bureau has been showing patience.

Political adviser Nimrod Novik has delayed leaving for the USSR to prepare the visit until he receives the general guidelines for Peres' Moscow talks on the political and economic level. Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze has already said publicly that if Shim'on Peres comes to Moscow, he will be happy to meet him, but the big question is whether a Peres-Gorbachev summit will take place.

Jerusalem says it is only natural that such a meeting should take place since Peres held similar meetings with the presidents of the United States and France during his visits to those countries. The Russians are still in no hurry to confirm such a meeting, which most likely is the main reason for the hold-up in the visit. The following story shows how quickly the Soviets can overcome bureaucratic obstacles: Yesterday, Nimrod Novik asked his contacts in the Moscow Peace Council to provide

him with a Soviet visa in one of the European capitals. Two hours later the Israeli Embassy in Vienna announced that it already had the visa.

It is still not clear to Jerusalem why the Soviets are anxious that Shim'on Peres' visit be held with such speed. The official answer is the Soviet Union's economic plight, an explanation which might only be a cover-up for a last minute Soviet attempt to jump on the Middle East political bandwagon, which they are trying to do through Vice Prime Minister Shim'on Peres.

Rabin Addresses Knesset Foreign Affairs Panel

Discusses Inner Cabinet Vote

TA1010122789 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew
1100 GMT 10 Oct 89

[Report by Knesset correspondent Dov Gilhar]

[Excerpt] The process must be given a chance; it has not yet ended. These remarks were the main point of the defense minister's address to the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Security Committee. I am not pessimistic, Mr Rabin told the Knesset members [MK's], and I do not view the Inner Cabinet's decision as the last word. I believe in the government's initiative, and the dispute is now over its implementation.

Rabin surprised some of the committee members when he declared that if Muhammad Milhim and Akram Haniyah were incorporated in the Palestinian delegation for talks with Israel, he would oppose such a delegation. One should recall that in the past, Rabin agreed to the incorporation of any deportee in talks because, according to Rabin, deportees are considered residents of the territories. Today, referring to Milhim and Haniyah, the defense minister said he would not agree to a Palestinian delegation that includes the PLO.

[Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew at 1100 GMT on 10 October adds that in response to a query by MK Ge'ula Kohen, Rabin added that he "agrees to incorporate deportees in the Palestinian delegation to negotiations because legally the deportees remain residents of the territories. On the other hand, he opposes the incorporation of people such as Muhammad Milhim and Akram Haniyah, because no official PLO member can be a member of the delegation."]

In retrospect, Rabin said, last Friday's Inner Cabinet resolution brought about an acceleration of the political process. Although the Alignment proposal was not approved, the process has not been terminated and must be given a chance. I do not view the events in the Inner Cabinet as the last word. I believe in the government's initiative, Rabin said, and the current dispute is over how to implement it. I have the time and patience; I am not pessimistic. These were Rabin's remarks, which can also be related to the question of whether the Alignment will secede from the unity government.

Rabin disclosed that the United States did not reveal that Mubarak's 10-point initiative was in fact a response to an American appeal from Washington. The defense minister said the Americans could have been more honest with us. [passage omitted]

Tax Revolt 'Will Be Broken'

TA1010140089 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew
1230 GMT 10 Oct 89

[Report by Knesset correspondent Dov Gilhar]

[Text] The rebellion against the payment of taxes in the village of Bayt Sahur in the territories was raised at the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee.

In response to a query by Knesset Member Yosi Sarid on this issue, Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin said the following: We are going to teach them a lesson. The foreign consuls will not demonstrate there, and Faysal al-Husayni will not hold news conferences there. There will be no attempt to avoid paying taxes. If it takes a month, then so be it, but they will be broken. We will not permit such a civil revolt to succeed, because it is a test which must be won with only a single outcome possible. We must tell Bayt Sahur to forget any chance of success, even if it means they are under curfew for 2 months. The defense minister said the residents want Bayt Sahur to be made into a symbol.

Arab Military Power Called 'Gravest Threat'

TA1110074589 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew
0600 GMT 11 Oct 89

[Report by Qobi Mandel on address by Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin to Hare'ali High School graduates in Haifa on 10 October]

[Text] The gravest threat to Israel's security at present, the defense minister said, is the military threat. The Arab countries are investing between \$40 and \$60 billion annually on their armies.

[Begin Rabin recording] Quantitatively and qualitatively, the most sophisticated conventional Soviet, American, and European arms can be found in the Middle East. I always give the following as an example: Syria's tank force quantitatively and qualitatively is triple that of France's, double that of Britain's, and only slightly less than the FRG's. Iraq and Syria can at present deploy on our eastern front between 10,000 and 11,000 good Russian tanks, which is comparable to the sum total of most of NATO's armies combined. [end recording]

People are often unaware of the scope and quality of the military situation we are facing, Rabin stressed.

[Begin Rabin recording] The level of danger in the event of war—the firepower, the power of destruction and killing—has increased sharply since the Yom Kippur war. [end recording]

In the face of these problems, Israel's defense policy is to prevent war.

[Begin Rabin recording] We are building an army which will carry out our defense policy targets, which are: first, deterrence; and if that is not sufficient, then the capability for an immediate crushing victory over the attacking enemy forces. [end recording]

'No Comment' on Claim of 1,000-km Range Missiles

TA1010133689 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1300 GMT 10 Oct 89

[Text] Lebanon's AL-NAHAR newspaper quotes unidentified military sources in southern Lebanon as saying that Israel has deployed surface-to-surface missiles with a 1,000-km range in the Galilee. The newspaper said entrance to the missile site has been banned and details on the type of missiles deployed were unavailable.

The IDF [Israel Defense Forces] spokesman said in response to this article: No comment.

IAI Tenders Bid for Australian Aircraft Deal

TA1010113589 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew
10 Oct 89 p 4

[Report by aviation correspondent Zohar Blumenkrantz]

[Text] Yig'al Erlich, the chief scientist of the Trade and Industry Ministry, has approved the sum of \$5 million as the government's participation in the development of a Falcon intelligence and warning plane prototype to be manufactured by Israel Aircraft Industries [IAI].

The IAI is participating in an international tender for the supply of intelligence and warning aircraft to Australia. The tender is now in its final stage. Senior representatives of Elta, the project's chief contractor, left for Australia last week.

The \$400-million project includes the supply of four intelligence and warning airplanes. A foreign company, which competed against IAI, hired the Israeli company Tadiran as its subcontractor.

In the bid submitted to Australia, IAI offers a novel approach to the subject of intelligence aircraft. According to this approach, the aircraft will not rely on an electromechanical system distributing energy by a rotating dish, such as that installed in the Boeing-manufactured AWACS [airborne warning and command system]. The new concept offers preplanned electronic energy management.

The approval of the government participation in the prototype construction is in accordance with the government decision to invest in incentives supporting high-tech research and development projects that would involve the employment of personnel on a high technological level.

IAI has already signed its first contract for the supply of this plane to a South American country.

Net Foreign Debt at 'Lowest Level Since 1982'

TA0510115889 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST
in English 5 Oct 89 p 8

[Report by economics correspondent Avi Temkin]

[Excerpt] Israel's net foreign debt dropped to its lowest level since 1982 at the end of June, to reach \$17 billion, according to figures released yesterday by the Bank of Israel.

The net foreign debt, defined as total foreign currency liabilities minus total assets, dropped by about \$900 million in the 12 months ending in June. At the end of 1984, in the midst of Israel's worst economic crisis, the net debt reached a peak of around \$20b., but has since been falling.

The drop in net debts has been linked to a marked rise in the country's foreign currency assets, particularly the foreign currency reserves held at the Bank of Israel. But the figures showed that over the last months, there has also been a marked drop in liabilities. [passage omitted]

Court Sentences 'Terrorists' to 30 Years

TA0510184089 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1800 GMT 5 Oct 89

[Text] The Lod military court today sentenced two terrorists from Jordan and Kuwait to 30 years imprisonment. The two men belonged to Nayif Hawatimah's Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine and were accused of attempting to infiltrate Israel from across the northern border. They were captured in an exchange of fire with an IDF [Israel Defense Forces] patrol. Our correspondent Yisra'el Peretz reports that the defendants refused to rise to their feet in court, and cursed the judge. As a consequence, the judge ordered them removed from the courtroom.

Data Released on Shootings Involving Children

TA1010110689 Tel Aviv AL HAMISHMAR
in Hebrew 10 Oct 89 p 1

[Report by Uri'el Ben-Ami]

[Text] The military advocate general's office has closed 30 files investigating deaths in which army soldiers were involved, after ruling that the shootings were in line with the regulations on opening fire and that the soldiers faced life-threatening situations.

The Israeli army spokesman disclosed this data in response to a question by the 'AL HAMISHMAR' correspondent. According to this data, the 30 cases in question are part of 42 cases in which children up to 16 years of age were shot and killed by army soldiers. The army spokesman added that since the beginning of the intifadah, the Military Police's criminal investigation division has handled 79 cases of children up to 16 years of age who were shot and

killed by soldiers, and the investigation of 62 of them has ended. Some 21 cases are still being handled by the military advocate general's office; 4 of them have been handed over to the police; charges have been pressed against 6 soldiers; 15 soldiers have faced disciplinary charges; and 6 soldiers have been reprimanded for inordinate behavior. [all figures as published]

The above data refer to 120 fatalities up to 16 years of age from the beginning of the intifadah until the beginning of September this year.

Violence, Curfews in Territories Updated

3 Fatah Men Arrested

TA0510175389 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1700 GMT 5 Oct 89

[Text] The security forces have arrested three Fatah activists in Gaza who were employed as local journalists. Our correspondent Arye Gus was told that over \$100,000 was found in their possession. It is believed that this money was sent by the PLO to finance the organization's activity in the area. The security forces suspect that several moneychangers in Gaza and East Jerusalem aided in transferring the money.

Two tear gas grenades were hurled today at IDF [Israel Defense Forces] soldiers in the al-Burayj refugee camp in the Gaza Strip and in Khan Yunus. There were no casualties and no damage was caused.

Curfews Imposed on Camps

TA0610095489 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST
in English 6 Oct 89 p 16

[Excerpts] [Passage omitted] The army, in preemptive moves aimed at blocking unrest, imposed curfews on seven refugee camps in the West Bank, closed wide areas to journalists and non-residents and shut 18 schools in Nabulus for the day, following leaflet calls to escalate protests on strike days.

Bayt Sahur, near Bethlehem, was again put under curfew, and tax raids were renewed after a one-day suspension. The Civil Administration plans to auction goods and merchandise confiscated during the raids next week at a site near Tel Aviv, an administration spokesman said. [passage omitted]

In another development, the Islamic Resistance Movement (Hamas), issued leaflet number 48, categorically rejecting the 10-point plan put forward by Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak, and labelling it an attempt to revive Prime Minister Shamir's election proposals.

The leaflet salutes the arsonists who set fire to the Carmel forests, and urges Palestinians to torch cotton fields in Israel, in order to damage the country's economy. The leaflet also praises the recent infiltration attempts from Jordan. [passage omitted]

In clashes in the territories, 13 people were reported wounded, including a 17-year-old seriously wounded at Battir, west of Jerusalem, and an 80-year-old man struck by a steel marble in Bayt Lahiyah in the Gaza Strip.

Arab Killed by IDF Gunfire

TA0610094389 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew
0830 GMT 6 Oct 89

[Text] An Arab youth from the village of Battir was killed last night by IDF [Israel Defense Forces] gunfire. Our correspondent in the territories 'Ido Shargil reports that an IDF unit operating in the village of Battir was assailed by masked individuals armed with stones and bottles. One of the masked men was hit by a bullet. He was sent to al-Maqasid Hospital in East Jerusalem, where he died of his wounds. The youth was known to have participated in an attempt to damage a train by placing a rock on the tracks.

Army Closes Nabulus, Bethlehem

TA0610195289 Jerusalem Television Service in Hebrew
1815 GMT 6 Oct 89

[Excerpts] A small charge exploded approximately 1 hour ago in Nahal Qidron in East Jerusalem as a Border Police patrol was driving by. Our police affairs correspondent Uri Kohen-Aharonov reports that there were no casualties and no damage was caused. [passage omitted]

The towns of Nabulus, Ramallah, and Bethlehem were declared closed military zones, and the curfew imposed on Bayt Sahur remains in force. [passage omitted]

General Strike in Gaza

TA0710122389 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1200 GMT 7 Oct 89

[Text] Five Arab residents of the al-Burayj refugee camp in the Gaza district were injured in riots today. They were transferred to local hospitals. Our correspondent Arye Gus reports that there was a general strike in several places in the Gaza district. The Unified National Command of the Uprising today permitted shop owners to open their businesses until 1700. The general strike will resume for 3 days beginning tomorrow.

An IDF [Israel Defense Forces] soldier was slightly injured by a rock in Janin last night.

Territories Closed for Holiday

TA0710182989 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1800 GMT 7 Oct 89

[Text] As on every Yom Kippur, the residents of the territories will be denied entry into Israel. Movement to and from Judaea and Samaria will be forbidden between 0300 on 8 October and 2000 on 9 October. The Gaza Strip will be closed from 2000 on 7 October until 0400 on 9 October.

Weekend Injuries in Gaza

TA0810114389

[Editorial Report] Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew on 8 October carries a front-page report by Eytan Rabin and Yizhar Be'er saying that "according to Arab sources, 25 Gaza inhabitants were injured over the weekend, including a child who lost an eye. According to these sources, disturbances took place in most of the refugee camps, as well as in Gaza, Rafah, and Khan Yunus. Nine Rafah residents were wounded in serious clashes when, among other actions, they threw themselves on the ground, blocking the army from patrolling the streets." The IDF [Israel Defense Forces] spokesman in the Southern Command said in reaction to this: "We have had no such report."

The report adds that "stoning incidents have caused the IDF to close the alley leading to the Christian church in Gaza."

It is further reported that "on Friday and Saturday the IDF imposed curfews on several places for inhabitants to carry out clean-up operations. The spokesman in the Southern Command reported six injuries in Gaza over the weekend, five during disturbances, and another—in Rafah—for wearing a mask and refusing soldiers' orders to halt. Two other masked men were caught in the Shaj'a'iyah neighborhood of Gaza and taken for questioning."

The report adds that "during the past 3 days all the refugee camps adjacent to Nabulus were subjected to curfews," noting that "the Tulkarm and Nur al-Shams refugee camps were also placed under curfew. Palestinian sources reported that three youths—aged 13, 14, and 19—from the Tulkarm refugee camp were so severely beaten that they required medical attention."

The IDF closed the Tuqan School in Nabulus for 1 week on 7 October.

In another report on page 2 by military correspondent Dan Sagir, it is reported that "the defense establishment believes that the unusual decision to declare a 5-day general strike and an increase in anti-Israel violence are linked to the Unified National Command of the Uprising's desire to create a new momentum of intifadah activity in the West Bank. The assessment is that against the backdrop of contacts toward political negotiations, the intifadah's 22-month anniversary, and the local leadership's fear of a drop in activity, it decided to call for increased efforts."

Firebomb Injures 3 Soldiers

TA0910175789 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1700 GMT 9 Oct 89

[Excerpts] Three soldiers were wounded in Nabulus yesterday when a Molotov cocktail hit the jeep in which they were driving. One of the soldiers sustained moderate wounds, while the other two were slightly injured. A helicopter flew the three to Sheba Medical Center in

Tel Hashomer. The IDF [Israel Defense Forces] spokesman reported that two Molotov cocktails were thrown at the jeep. One of the soldiers returned fire.

Earlier, Arab resident Ghassan 'Udud, 32, was killed in the Nabulus casbah. Our correspondent Arye Gus reports that an IDF patrol was accosted by a group of locals, some of whom were masked. The patrolmen tried to stop the Arabs; failing to do so, they opened fire. 'Udud was wounded and received medical treatment from a military physician, but died of his wounds. The IDF placed a curfew on Nabulus.

Another youth was killed yesterday afternoon when a group of local residents held a rally near the al-Najah University. Attempting to detain the demonstrators, soldiers pursued them while firing at the group. As said, one of the youths was wounded and subsequently died.

Yesterday afternoon in Rafah, an IDF soldier was wounded by a stone. He was evacuated to the Soroka Hospital, where he was treated and released.

With the exception of several instances of rioting, no special events were recorded in the Gaza Strip. The general strike in the territories continued today.

The closure imposed by the IDF on Judaea, Samaria, and the Gaza Strip will be lifted at dawn tomorrow.

Five more Israeli cars were set on fire in the Jerusalem district last night, bringing the total of torched Israeli cars in Jerusalem over the past 2 weeks to 20. [passage omitted] The Jerusalem Police have detained several suspects from the Abu-Tor area, and they are now being interrogated. [passage omitted]

2 Shot to Death in Nabulus

TA1010095189 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST
in English 10 Oct 89 pp 1, 12

[Report by Joel Greenberg]

[Excerpts] Troops shot and killed two Palestinians in Nabulus, and a five-year-old girl was critically wounded in Tulkarm during clashes in the West Bank over Yom Kippur.

A Palestinian was shot to death yesterday by a fellow Arab at the al-Fawwar refugee camp near Hebron.

According to local reports, he was killed by "collaborators" who clashed with local residents. [passage omitted]

Palestinians said demonstrations erupted after the clash, protesters shouted slogans, and soldiers responded by firing teargas and live ammunition. Ahmad Sarawan, 75 and ill, died after a teargas canister landed at the entrance to his home in the Mahfiya neighbourhood, according to local reports. An IDF [Israel Defense Forces] spokeswoman said checks in Nabulus and with the Civil Administration revealed no evidence of such an incident.

Palestinians claimed that during the unrest soldiers raided homes and beat occupants, including Subhi Akad, 64, who was hospitalized after he was hit with a rock. The IDF had no information on the alleged incident. [passage omitted]

At the al-Fawwar refugee camp near Hebron, Sa'id Ikhilakawi, 16, was killed in a clash with armed men reputed to be "collaborators" with the Israeli authorities. According to reports from the camp, a member of the 'Asfur family was stoned by youths as he drove his car, and alerted relatives who opened fire at camp residents, killing Ikhilakawi. The IDF confirmed the death, and said it was being investigated by the police. [passage omitted]

In other clashes, two people were reported wounded in Janin.

In the Gaza Strip, 23 people were reported wounded by live bullets and steel marbles in clashes Sunday and yesterday. A soldier was injured in the head by a stone in Rafah, hospitalized for treatment, and released.

[Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew at 0830 GMT on 10 October adds: "An army soldier was lightly wounded last night by a stone thrown at his car near the village of Luban al-Sharqiyah in the Nabulus district. Our correspondent in the territories, 'Ido Shargil, reports that the soldier was hospitalized in Jerusalem."]

Blockade on Territories Lifted

TA1010052489 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
0500 GMT 10 Oct 89

[Text] This morning the Israeli army lifted the blockade that was imposed on Judaea, Samaria, and Gaza on the eve of Yom Kippur. Nevertheless, our correspondent Arye Gus reports that the general strike continues.

12 Arrested for Planning Attacks on Israel*JN0610131889 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic
1210 GMT 6 Oct 89**[Report by Randah Habib from Amman]*

[Text] Citing an official Jordanian source, the JORDANIAN NEWS AGENCY has reported that 12 members of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP) have been arrested. The 12 will be interrogated about the smuggling of explosives and personnel into Jordan to fire rockets across the cease-fire line. According to the source, the detainees wanted to create a tense atmosphere in the areas close to the West Bank and divert attention from the intifadah of the Palestinian people, who chose the course of unarmed popular confrontation against the occupation forces.

The source added that these operations are political one-upmanship against the peace efforts the PLO is making at this stage. The source noted that such operations caused damage to citizens when some rockets exploded on Jordanian territory. The source asserted that these arrests were made to ensure security and to put an end to this kind of tampering.

A source close to the PFLP in Amman told our radio that the arrests took place on the night of 4 October and that among those arrested are PFLP officials Hamdi Matar and 'Azmi Khawaja. It is worth mentioning that PFLP cadres in Jordan are constantly being arrested. Members of this group were released from jail on 19 February 1989 following a general amnesty King Husayn announced on the occasion of the establishment of the Arab Cooperation Council, which comprises Jordan, Egypt, Iraq, and the Yemen Arab Republic.

Paper Reports on Arrests*JN0710081089 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English
7 Oct 89 p 1*

[Text] Amman (J.T.)—The government said Friday [6 October] security forces had arrested 12 members of a Palestinian group for their involvement in a missile attack across the demarcation line with Israel.

The JORDAN NEWS AGENCY, PETRA quoted an official spokesman as saying the members of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP) were arrested "for interrogation linked to the smuggling of explosives and helping infiltrations into Jordan for launching rockets across the demarcation line."

The spokesman said these activities aimed to "create tension in the area bordering the West Bank and divert attention from the Palestinian uprising, which has chosen the path of mass popular unarmed confrontation with the occupation forces."

"Such actions are intended to vie politically with the peaceful efforts deployed by the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) at this stage," the spokesman added.

The PFLP had claimed it carried out a Sept. 7 attack in which several Katyusha rockets were fired from north-west Jordan towards Israel.

At least one fell short, landing in Jordan, and there were no reports of damage or casualties on either side of the demarcation line.

King Congratulates Honecker on National Day*JN0710172089 Amman Domestic Service in English
1700 GMT 7 Oct 89*

[Text] His majesty the king sent a cable to Mr Erich Honecker, the president of the Democratic Republic of Germany, congratulating him on his country's national day.

His majesty wished Mr Honecker good health and the East German people further progress and prosperity.

King Sends Message to Disarmament Congress*JN0710183489 Amman Domestic Service in English
1700 GMT 7 Oct 89*

[Text] His Majesty the King has said that the nightmare of nuclear weapons is a real and a haunting one that weighs heavily on the human consciousness. As a deterrent to war, it demonstrated that perfect defense is nothing more than an illusion which holds both attacker and defender captive. Any effort to free humanity from the captivity is noble and worthwhile. Nuclear disarmament is an imperative if a nuclear war is to be avoided.

His majesty added that we hope to see the day when the cost of developing an acquiring nuclear weapons—the tools of destruction—will be diverted to fighting other scourges which threaten humanity, such as drug abuse, disease, poverty, and hunger.

In a message addressed to the 9th World Congress of the International Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War, currently convening in Tokyo, his majesty said the deliberations of the congress on the effect of nuclear war should provide the most important prospective to decisionmakers, political leaders, and military strategists.

His majesty the king went on to say that he wanted to register Jordan's appreciation for the contribution of the congress to the signing of the agreement placing a moratorium on nuclear testing.

He said Jordan is a signatory to the call to convene the conference on banning nuclear testing, which was held under the auspices of the United Nations in February this year.

It is Jordan's sincere hope, his majesty said, that this will constitute a major step towards total nuclear disarmament and a dismantling of the stockpiled nuclear arsenal.

His majesty noted that Jordan is a signatory to the nonproliferation treaty of nuclear arms and fully endorses a resolution urging states and government

leaders in the Middle East to officially and openly declare that their countries will, by no means, initiate the production of nuclear weapons, nor will they allow the development or stockpiling of such weapons on their national territories.

King, Queen Leave for Visits to Italy, Canada

JN0810123189 Amman Domestic Service in English
1200 GMT 8 Oct 89

[Text] Their Majesties King Husayn and Queen Nur left for Rome today on a 2-day working visit to Italy, during which his majesty will have talks with President Francesco Cossiga and Prime Minister Giulio Andreotti on Middle East developments and efforts to achieve peace in the region. Bilateral ties and cooperation between the two countries will also be discussed.

On Monday, their majesties will begin a week-long visit to Canada. His majesty will meet the Canadian prime minister for talks on Middle East peace efforts and bilateral relations.

Upon their departure, their majesties were seen off at the airport by his royal highness the crown prince and members of the royal family, as well as senior government officials. The crown prince was sworn in as regent.

Foreign Minister Meets UN Secretary General

JN0710124889 Amman PETRA-JNA in Arabic
0930 GMT 7 Oct 89

[Text] United Nations, 7 Oct (PETRA)—Marwan al-Qasim, deputy prime minister and foreign minister met yesterday with UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar.

During the meeting, they discussed developments in the Palestine question, the situation in Lebanon, and the Israeli practices in the occupied lands.

Iraqi Envoy Conveys Message From Saddam to King

JN0710133089 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1230 GMT
7 Oct 89

[Text] Amman, 7 Oct (INA)—His Majesty King Husayn of Jordan received here today Iraqi President Saddam Husayn's personal envoy to his majesty, Justice Minister Akram 'Abd-al-Qadir 'Ali, who arrived in Amman earlier today.

During the meeting, the justice minister delivered a written message from President Saddam Husayn to His Majesty King Husayn.

Iraqi President Saddam Husayn's personal envoy, after concluding his visit to Jordan, will leave for Egypt and the Yemen Arab Republic to deliver two written messages from the Iraqi president to Egyptian President Muhammad Husni Mubarak and Yemeni President Colonel 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih.

Envoy Leaves for Cairo 8 Oct

JN0810104889 Baghdad INA in English 1015 GMT
8 Oct 89

[Text] Amman, Oct 8, INA—President Saddam Husayn's special envoy to King Husayn of Jordan, Mr Akram 'Abd-al-Qadir 'Ali, Iraqi minister of justice, left Amman this morning for Cairo at the end of a two-day visit to Jordan during which he delivered a written message from President Saddam Husayn to the Jordanian monarch.

On the other hand, Mr 'Ali will hand over Egyptian President Husni Mubarak a written message from President Saddam Husayn. The Iraqi envoy will leave then for Sanaa to deliver a written message from President Husayn to President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih of the Yemen Arab Republic.

Libyan Envoy Al-Humaydi Meets With Officials

Arrives in Amman 6 Oct

JN0610195289 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic
1900 GMT 6 Oct 89

[Text] Amman—Major al-Khuwaylidi al-Humaydi, member of the Libyan Revolution Command Council, arrived in Amman tonight. In a statement to the JORDANIAN NEWS AGENCY, Al-Humaydi said he will convey a message to His Majesty King Husayn from Colonel Mu'ammarr al-Qadhdhafi concerning the latest developments in the Arab and international arenas, especially the Palestine question. He added that his talks with Jordanian officials will deal with relations between the sisterly countries and means of bolstering them.

Al-Humaydi expressed his pleasure at visiting Jordan and commended the great pan-Arab role being played by Jordan. 'Amir Khamash, his majesty's special adviser; Salim Masa'idah, deputy prime minister and interior minister; and other officials received him and his delegation at Amman airport.

Holds Talks With Ibn-Shakir

LD0810093289 Tripoli JANA in English 0845 GMT
8 Oct 89

[Text] Amman, al-Tumur [October] 8, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY—Major al-Khuwaylidi al-Humaydi met yesterday in Amman with Mr. Zayd Ibn-Shakir, prime minister of sisterly Jordan, in the presence of messrs Abo 'Uda and Khamash, two advisers to the king for political affairs.

During this meeting, the two sides discussed and took stock of the bilateral relations and ways for promoting them to realize the aspirations of the one Arab people in the two sisterly countries.

They also discussed a number of Arab and international matters of common interest apart from exchanging their respective viewpoints.

Attends Luncheon Banquet

*JN0810091389 Tripoli JANA in English 0845 GMT
8 Oct 89*

[Text] Amman, al-Tumir [October] 8. JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY—Mr. Amir Khamash, the special adviser to King Husayn, gave a lunch banquet to Major al-Khuwaylidi al-Humaydi.

Present at this banquet was Mr. Salim Masa'dah, vice-premier and minister of interior, Mr. Alamin, governor of the capital, Staff General Hamad, the inspector general of the Jordanian Armed Forces and Brigadier 'Iz ad-Din, chief of the police in the capital.

Delivers Message, Departs

*JN0710164189 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic
1600 GMT 7 Oct 89*

[Text] His Majesty King Husayn today received at the Royal Hashemite Court Al-Khuwaylidi al-Humaydi, member of the Libyan Revolution Command Council.

Al-Humaydi conveyed to his majesty a message from his brother, His Excellency President Mu'ammarr al-Qadhafi. The message deals with the situation in the Arab region and horizons of the joint Arab action.

The meeting was attended by Prime Minister al-Sharif Zayd Ibn-Shakir and 'Amir Khamash, his majesty's personal adviser.

Al-Humaydi left Amman this evening. He was seen off at the airport by 'Amir Khamash, his majesty's personal adviser, Salim Masa'dah, deputy prime minister and interior minister, and a number of other officials.

Finance Minister Discusses Reserves, Petra Bank

*JN0910192189 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic
1700 GMT 9 Oct 89*

[Dispatch from Randah Hafith in Amman]

[Text] Jordanian Finance Minister Basil Jandana has stated that Jordan will obtain a \$317-million participation loan early next year from the World Bank, Japan, and the Federal Republic of Germany. He indicated that this long-term loan will be used to support the general budget and will allow the Central Bank of Jordan [CBJ] to intervene in the market to stabilize the dinar exchange rate when necessary.

Speaking to reporters, Jandana said work is under way to develop the income tax law in such a manner that will enable the treasury to collect 95 million dinars next year, compared to 55 million dinars expected to be collected this year. Jandana stressed that this development will not reach or affect low-income people and will improve the way taxes are collected according to fair distribution.

He said the CBJ's foreign currency reserves have now attained a large figure that has restabilized the dinar. He, however, did not disclose this figure.

Jandana disclosed new facts related to Ahmad al-Jalabi, former chairman of the board of directors of Petra Bank, who is now outside Jordan after his dismissal. He said institutions and persons close to Al-Jalabi used Petra Bank to borrow about \$70 million which had not been reported in the bank's files. Within this context, informed sources said an inquiry commission would be formed within a few days in order to receive the Petra Bank file from the international auditors.

Petra Bank Problems 'Worse Than Expected'

*JN1010081689 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English
10 Oct 89 p 1*

[Text] Amman—Finance Minister Basil Jandana said Monday that investigations into Petra Bank affairs had uncovered problems worse than expected, but that the government was determined to meet all of the bank's obligations.

Jandana said inquiries into Petra Bank, Jordan's second biggest commercial bank, had shown at least \$68 million unaccounted for.

Jandana told reporters Petra Bank "was borrowing from the Central Bank in Jordanian dinars and sending the money abroad to support its (operations) outside Jordan."

His charges were the most specific yet levelled at the former management of Petra Bank since the Economic Security Committee took over the bank and ordered its merger with Jordan-Gulf Bank in August.

The former chairman of the bank, Ahmad al-Jalabi, left the Kingdom under mysterious circumstances.

He said two Al-Jalabi-owned businesses, Abhara Trading and Rimal Trading, had borrowed \$48 million from two now-liquidated Al-Jalabi-owned Swiss banks, Mebro Geneva and Socofi, [names as published]

Jandana said the funds "were remitted from Jordan Petra Bank with instructions not recorded in Petra Bank Amman, instructions that were given by Al-Jalabi alone... to give this money."

Paper Warns of Resettlement of Soviet Jews

*JN0710122689 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English
7 October 89 p 4*

[Editorial: "Not on Our Expense"]

[Text] First Tel Aviv asked Washington to intercede with Moscow to allow hundreds of thousands of Soviet Jews to leave the Soviet Union, and now Israel is asking the U.S. government to foot the bill for the resettlement of those migrants not only within Israel itself but also in the Arab territories occupied in the 1967 war. If some of the wave of the anticipated 100,000 Jewish immigrants from the Soviet Union end up settling in the West Bank, then the two superpowers should bear direct responsibility for

an act which will bring about incalculable harm not only to the Arab side but also to the precarious peace process in the Middle East.

It is the Arab right to ask of the Soviet Union to make sure that the mass exodus of Soviet Jews will not be in any way at the cost of the Palestinian Arabs. This is the least that one would expect from the Soviet Union which has developed a traditionally fair stance on the Palestinian question and the Arab-Israeli conflict until this point in time. As for the U.S., which is deeply involved in the process of mediation between the parties to the Palestinian-Israeli conflict, any funding of Jewish settlement on Arab lands would damage to infinite proportions the emerging positive American perspective on the stalled peace process, especially in these critical days when a Palestinian-Israeli dialogue is in the offing.

If the right to leave one's country is a proposition that both superpowers are now subscribing to, it is the fervent hope and aspiration of the Arab World that that right should be exercised with due respect for other rights, especially those related to the people who will end up bearing the cost of its implementation. It must be pointed out at this juncture that the right to leave one's country as espoused in relevant international human rights instruments refers to individuals and not to mass emigration of people. In fact that very right is still being discussed in various international fora with a view to elaborating a specific convention on it in due course. It is noteworthy that none of the international instruments governing mass migration tolerates in the slightest possible way jeopardising the rights of other peoples who may be affected by such massive exoduses to their lands and territories. Accordingly, Washington and Moscow are duty bound to respect international law before going ahead with their joint venture to resettle Soviet Jews in Arab territories. Otherwise the implications of their utter disregard for justice and law would shatter the growing optimism generated by their growing entente.

Editorial Assails Israeli Rejection of Plan

JN0710131089 Amman AL-DUSTUR in Arabic
7 Oct 89 pp 1, 21

[Editorial: "Israeli Delusions and the Lessons of History"]

[Text] The Israeli rejection of the Egyptian call for talks with the Palestinians adds another intransigent act on the part of Israel against any move toward a just and comprehensive peace that would recognize the legitimate rights of the Palestinian Arab people and offer a final, decisive, and lasting solution to the Arab-Israeli conflict.

The new-old Israeli stance shows its obvious hostility toward peace; its persistence in occupation, aggression, and expansion; and its full inclination toward the Zionist war ideology, which has nurtured armed force and has militarized Israeli society, placing it permanently under arms in order to implement the Zionist plan of attracting more Jewish immigrants and continuing the aggression, expansion, and settlement.

The Israeli Likud bloc, which is vehemently opposed to ending the destructive Arab-Israeli conflict, has shown that it still proceeds according to the old, antiquated political mentality in which force, arrogance, and intransigence are the only ways of dealing with others.

So, it is obvious from this Israeli position that the international community has still not fulfilled the duty and moral responsibility of exerting sufficient pressure on Israel and of boycotting that entity—an entity that completely flaunts persistent calls for peace in its attempt to gain time to suppress the glorious and brave intifadah and prolong the Zionist occupation of the Palestinian Arab land.

The U.S. position contributes greatly toward the continuation of Israeli arrogance by injecting more blood into the Israeli war machine and providing various types of cover and aid, which this entity uses as a crutch to overcome its economic, political, social, and security crises.

This continuous intransigence, mounting oppression, and complete disavowal of Palestinian rights would not have taken place or continued thus far had the international community, and the United States in particular, given sufficient attention to the crisis which Israel is trying to keep alive.

Zionist state terrorism is evident from the documentary "Days of Rage," which Jordan Television broadcast last night. This terrorism is a shameful stigma for Israel, which pursues a policy of mass annihilation. It was also an eloquent expression of the Palestinian Arab people's determination to secure their legitimate national rights regardless of the heavy price and sacrifices involved.

Israel must learn the lessons of history and understand that, no matter how long it lasts, colonialism is bound to end and that the occupation of other people's lands by force will not efface their legitimate rights. So, it is better for Israel to heed the will of the international community by withdrawing from the occupied Arab territories and acknowledging the Palestinian people's legitimate rights. Otherwise, the region will remain threatened by a dangerous conflagration that might explode at any moment.

Kidnappers of Red Cross Workers 'Identified'

JN1110160589 Abu Dhabi AL-ITTIHAD in Arabic
9 Oct 89 pp 3, 20

[Text] Beirut—A security source in the leadership of the Nationalist Front, the alliance of the pro-Syria parties, has disclosed that the competent security organs in the south have identified the parties that kidnapped International Committee of the Red Cross [ICRC] representatives Emmanuel Christen and Elio Erriquez in Sidon last Friday. In a statement to AL-ITTIHAD, the security source said that the intensive contacts held by Dr Salim al-Huss; Mustafa Sa'd, leader of the Popular Nasirite Organization; and the leaders of the Lebanese and Palestinian forces in the south have not convinced the kidnappers to release the Swiss representatives.

While not divulging the identity of the kidnappers, the source noted that Michel Dernau [name as published], head of the ICRC mission in Lebanon, has informed the concerned Lebanese officials and leaders that the ICRC Headquarters might close down its offices in Beirut if Christen and Erriquez are not released quickly. This is the sixth kidnapping operation that Swiss workers of the ICRC in Lebanon have been exposed to during this year.

In a statement to AL-ITTIHAD, Dr Salim al-Huss said he is keeping in touch with the concerned parties to release the kidnapped Swiss workers. He also declared his absolute rejection of such irresponsible practices to which this international humanitarian organization is exposed, expressing his hope that the ongoing contacts will produce positive results.

AL-ITTIHAD learned from a security source in the Popular Nasirite Organization that armed units affiliated with nationalist Lebanese and Palestinian forces have launched large-scale raids in some popular areas in Sidon and some empty areas around the city to locate the place where the Swiss hostages are being held. The source told AL-ITTIHAD that a number of armed men were arrested during the raids for facilitating the kidnapping. The source noted that their arrest will clear the way for locating the place where the Swiss are held after the identification of the kidnappers.

PLO Wants Release of Employees

NC1110083589 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic
0815 GMT 11 Oct 89

[Text] A responsible Palestinian source has affirmed that the PLO has begun negotiating with Fatah-the Revolutionary Council, which is led by Abu-Nidal [Sabri al-Banna], with the aim of securing the unconditional release of the two International Red Cross employees who were kidnapped in Sidon last week. The source asserted that the Abu-Nidal group is responsible for kidnapping the two Swiss nationals employees.

'Awn Receives Message From Iraqi President

NC1110115989 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic
1015 GMT 11 Oct 89

[Text] Prime Minister General Michel 'Awn received a message from Iraqi President Saddam Husayn dealing with bilateral cooperation and the current parliamentary discussions in al-Ta'if. The message was delivered by Iraqi Charge d'Affaires Hikmat 'Abd Khudayr.

Al-Huss, Saudi King Fahd Exchange Messages

NC0710230689 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
1030 GMT 7 Oct 89

[Text] Prime Minister Dr Salim al-Huss yesterday received a message from King Fahd Ibn-'Abd-al-'Aziz, the custodian of the two holy shrines. The message reads: Your Excellency is undoubtedly aware that the Lebanese crisis has reached a decisive crossroads and important juncture. Despite the enormity of the dangers surrounding Lebanon from all sides, there is a now a better opportunity than ever before to erect the pillars of peace which would permit the establishment of a capable, strong, independent, and fully sovereign Lebanese state. Such an opportunity might not recur soon now that all the Lebanese, Arab, and international conditions have been provided to ensure its success and attain the cherished goal.

In his message to Prime Minister al-Huss, King Fahd adds: In this framework, your excellency knows that one of the basic and important steps is agreement among the Lebanese. The higher Arab committee has directed its attention toward this goal since the beginning. It is the foundation on which Lebanon's unity, sovereignty, and independence are based. Furthermore, it is the object of the Lebanese deputies current meetings in al-Ta'if and the consequent meeting of the Chamber of Deputies in Beirut after the conclusion of the al-Ta'if meetings to endorse what the deputies will approve, carry out the elections, and set up the Lebanese constitutional institutions.

The Saudi king adds: I hope that your excellency appreciates that it is extremely important at this decisive stage that the goal of the deputies current meetings in al-Ta'if should be to serve the sublime interests of Lebanon without being influenced by any pressures, so that the deputies can safeguard Lebanon's interests and balance them with the interests of the groups they represent.

In his message to Prime Minister al-Huss, King Fahd further says: In the full conviction that you are seeking Lebanon's unity, independence, and territorial integrity, we beseech you to exert all efforts possible to persuade the deputies who are here to cooperate among themselves in order to reach a united stand vis-a-vis the national accord document which the tripartite committee submitted to them to debate and endorse. Such a united stand constitutes, as you realize, the only guarantee for the goal set at the Arab summit in Casablanca, which we all want to see fulfilled and which the higher

Arab committee has sought and is still seeking to implement after approval by all parties. This goal emphasizes Lebanon's unity, independence, and sovereignty throughout its territory and that any solution which does not safeguard these main principles cannot represent a real solution to the Lebanese problem.

King Fahd's message concludes: I hope to receive confirmation from your excellency that you will continue your praiseworthy efforts and effective cooperation with the committee to ensure that any agreements reached at this blessed meeting now taking place in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia will be implemented. I thank your excellency for your attention.

Prime Minister al-Huss sent the following reply to King Fahd: To His Majesty King Fahd Ibn-'Abd-al-'Aziz Al Sa'ud, custodian of the two holy shrines: I received your cable dated 7 Rabi' al-Awwal corresponding to 6 October 1989. You explain the seriousness of the crossroads the Lebanese crisis has reached and the delicate stage it is in, the mission of the higher Arab tripartite committee, and the hopes pinned to achieving the cherished solution to the Lebanese crisis through the deputies' deliberations in their al-Ta'if meetings. We assure you of our full appreciation for your noble efforts personally and through the higher Arab tripartite committee to rescue Lebanon from its ordeal.

In his reply to the Saudi king, Prime Minister al-Huss adds: We also assure you that we will spare no efforts to express our support for all the good efforts of the higher Arab tripartite committee and its endeavors with all those concerned to enable the honorable deputies meeting in al-Ta'if to carry out their historic responsibilities. We support their efforts to reach a stand that will rescue Lebanon from the serious crisis that threatens the fate of the Lebanese homeland to the core.

We express our deep appreciation and respect and extend sincerest thanks to you personally and to the noble committee for what you are doing for the sake of Lebanon.

Attempted Assassination of Fatah Commander

NC1110121189 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon
in Arabic 1045 GMT 11 Oct 89

[Text] According to information from the south, an attempt to assassinate Fatah force 17 commander Abu-Hamid was carried out at the American circle in Sidon at noon today. The assassination attempt took place at the same time gunmen opened fire at a gold Renault 18 at the entrance to the camps in Sidon. The passengers—a doctor and another person—were killed instantly.

The doctor may be Palestinian, belonging to the Fatah Revolutionary Council [FRC]. A number of FRC officials in Al-Rashidiyah camp have been killed in the past 2 days as part of the existing struggle between the Fatah Movement and FRC.

FRC Accuses Israel of Killing

NC1110103189 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic
0815 GMT 11 Oct 89

[Text] Fatah-the Revolutionary Council [FRC], led by Abu-Nidal [Sabri al-Banna], has accused Israel of killing FRC official Musa 'Atiyah 'Alawnah. Gunmen shot 'Alawnah in Sidon on Monday night.

Shaykh Sha'ban: Al-Ta'if Meeting 'American Plot'

NC0810202089 Tehran International Service
in Arabic 1730 GMT 8 Oct 89

[Text] Shaykh Sa'id Sha'ban, leader of the Islamic Unification Movement in Lebanon who is currently visiting Sanandaj to meet with religious ulema and people in the Kurdistan governorate, has talked to our correspondent about the meeting of the Lebanese Chamber of Deputies in al-Ta'if. He said: What is now happening in al-Ta'if is actually an American plot to impose the authority of political Maronism in Lebanon and to waste 15 years of steadfastness by its Muslim people and the war they waged to achieve majority rule in this country. He added: In our capacity as the Lebanese Muslim and national forces, we will not permit—after these years of war and steadfastness and our shouldering a great deal of hardships—the United States to achieve its intentions and objectives.

On the occasion of the approaching week of unity, the leader of the Islamic Unification Movement in Lebanon affirmed the need for the Muslims in the area to unite in order to expel the Zionist entity from occupied Palestine.

Al-Husayni Forms Deputies Subcommittee in Al-Ta'if

NC0910175989 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain
in Arabic to Lebanon 1630 GMT 9 Oct 89

[Excerpt] Following a series of meetings and contacts held by the Arab tripartite committee at more than one level, Chamber of Deputies Speaker Husayn al-Husayni formed a chamber subcommittee and chaired its first meeting this afternoon. The subcommittee embraces the various blocs and orientations and includes the following 16 deputies: Nasri al-Ma'luf, Rene Mu'awwad, 'Abdallah al-Rasi, Butrus Harb, George Sa'adah, Edmond Rizq, Michel Sassin, Joseph Skaf, Khatshig Babikian, Mahmud 'Ammar, Muhammad Yusuf Baydun, Tawfiq 'Assaf, Dr 'Ali al-Khalil, Nazih al-Bizri, Talal al-Mir'ibi, and Jamil Kibbi.

The task of this subcommittee is to pinpoint differences, report them to the Arab committee, and to outline points of agreement. [passage omitted]

Al-Ta'if Drafting Committee Suspends Meetings

NC1110071489 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
0430 GMT 11 Oct 89

[Text] The parliamentary drafting committee failed to end the deadlock reached by the parliamentary meetings

in al-Ta'if. The committee's 3-hour meeting yesterday did not eliminate the obstacles nor agree on the outstanding points in view of the insistence demonstrated by the East Beirut hardline deputies regarding the president's jurisdictions. Phalangist Party leader Dr George Sa'adah informed the committee members that he has been accused of bribery in Beirut and of relinquishing basic principles. He said he can no longer endure this.

Shortly afterward, Chamber Speaker Husayn al-Husayni met with Sa'adah and deputy Butrus Harb. The conferees decided to suspend the drafting committee's meeting.

It should be noted that the dispute engulfing the drafting committee meetings revolves around the president's jurisdictions and the cancellation of political sectarianism. The suspension of the drafting committee's session scheduled for 1800 yesterday, prompted intensive consultations and exchanges. The Arab ministerial committee members met with al-Husayni. Saudi Foreign Minister Sa'ud al-Faysal met with deputy Kazim al-Khalil and other deputies.

It has been learned that consultations will resume this morning in a bid to enable the committee to resume its meetings.

Army Suspends Participation in Security Talks

NC1010115589 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
1030 GMT 10 Oct 89

[Text] Acting Army Commander Staff Major General Sami al-Khatib telephoned Prime Minister Dr Salim al-Huss today and informed him that 1st Lieutenant 'Abd-al-Rahman Aslan has been martyred by sniper fire directed from East Beirut at al-Shiyah [in West Beirut].

Dr al-Huss strongly condemned the crime, which he described as a flagrant violation of the cease-fire and an attempt by the disaffected to hamper the peace efforts of which all the Lebanese have great hopes.

The Army Command Directorate of Guidance issued the following statement today:

At a time when positive signs of a solution of the Lebanese crisis are emerging in al-Ta'if, those in East Beirut who are against any solution have moved to obstruct the current efforts and disrupt the security situation. At 1000 today, while 1st Lt 'Abd-al-Rahman Aslan from the 107th battalion was inspecting military positions in al-Shiyah, 12.7-mm caliber fire was directed at him from nearby positions in East Beirut. He was injured in the head and died instantly.

Therefore, the army command is suspending the participation of its representative in the security committee pending necessary and prompt action against those responsible for this regrettable incident.

Meanwhile, the army command pledges to continue observing the cease-fire and renew its full commitment to the provisions of the decisions issued by the Arab committee.

Al-Khatib Army To Participate

NC1010203089 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
1530 GMT 10 Oct 89

[Statement issued by the Guidance Directorate of the army command in Beirut on 10 October]

[Text] After a statement was issued earlier this morning on the martyrdom of 1st Lieutenant 'Abd-al-Rahman Aslan in the al-Shiyah area and on suspending participation by the Army representative on the security committee, Army Commander Staff Major General Sami al-Khatib met with the brother Algerian officers and assistant Arab League Secretary General Lakhdar Ibrahim [as heard]. They assured him that the incident was completely isolated, that all the necessary measures have been taken in this regard, and that there has been no change in the political decision of all the parties.

Therefore, out of its position which supports and backs the Arab committee and its decisions, it has been decided that the Army command's representative in Beirut will again attend the committee's meetings at the horse racetrack to continue discussing and dealing with this and similar incidents with a view to ensuring the success of the committee's work.

Amal, PSP Suspend Participation

NC1010162089 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic
1415 GMT 10 Oct 89

[Text] The security committee did not hold its meeting today due to a security setback on the combat lines in 'Ayn al-Rummanah this morning. Sniper fire was exchanged along the lines. Accordingly, a number of people were wounded, and officer 'Abd-al-Rahman Aslan of the 6th Brigade was killed.

The Amal Movement later announced that the participation of its representative in the security committee, Ahmad al-B'alabakki, has been suspended due to the setback. The Progressive Socialist Party representative has also announced his withdrawal from the committee.

Committee Meets, Official Comments

NC1110112789 (Clandestine) Voice of the People
in Arabic to Lebanon 1030 GMT 11 Oct 89

[Text] The security committee resumed its meetings today with all members attending after the army command in West Beirut reversed its decision not to attend the meetings to protest the continued security violations that led to the martyrdom of 1st Lieutenant 'Abd-al-Rahman Aslan.

Following the 2-hour meeting, one of the attending Algerian officers said:

[Begin recording] The security committee resumed its meetings on 11 October at the committee's premises at the racetrack. The committee first expressed regret over the incident that caused the death of an army officer. It asked that such incidents not occur again. It agreed to continue the investigation and identify those responsible.

The committee then reviewed the security situation and discussed ways to strengthen the measures aimed at maintaining calm on all fronts. It was satisfied with the operation to remove the bodies of fighters from the Suq al-Gharb area. The issue of Afqa and kidnapped people was discussed and it was agreed that this issue should be tackled as soon as possible.

The committee also discussed the possibility of opening other crossing points to facilitate movement between the two sectors of Beirut and also continued its discussion of the possibility of effecting a disengagement of forces. [end recording]

Hizballah's Al-Tufayli on Arab Committee's Aims

NC0910185189 *Tehran International Service in Arabic*
1730 GMT 9 Oct 89

[Text] Shaykh Subhi al-Tufayli, one of the leaders of Hizballah in Lebanon, has cast doubt on the aims of the Arab tripartite committee, which has been entrusted to solve the Lebanese crisis. He described this committee's recent positions in agreement with Syria and the Lebanese national forces as a false maneuver. IRNA quoted Shaykh al-Tufayli, in an interview with the AL-AHD weekly newspaper, Hizballah's mouthpiece, as saying that the acceptable solution to the Lebanese crisis must provide for at least the establishment of a just system opposed to the Zionist entity and stemming from the will of the Lebanese people. He added that any other system which lacks these qualities will in fact support the Zionist entity, cause strife, and ignite civil war.

Shaykh Subhi al-Tufayli emphasized the importance of the Palestinian cause and warned against attempts to liquidate this cause by imposing a solution which will destroy the hopes and aspirations of the struggling Palestinian people.

Referring to the martyrdom of 16 Kuwaiti pilgrims at the hands of the Saudi regime, Shaykh al-Tufayli said: The Kuwaiti rulers, who themselves did not dare to commit this crime, authorized the al-Hijaz rulers to carry it out.

PSP Political Bureau Meets, Issues Statement

NC0910175589 *(Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon* 1130 GMT 9 Oct 89

[Text] The Progressive Socialist Party Political Bureau, which met today under the chairmanship of party leader Walid Junblatt, discussed current developments and issued the following statement:

1. The political bureau discussed the al-Ta'if meetings and the information which has leaked out from them. It

saw in the East Beirut deputies inflexible and intransigent positions, which are based on the directives of Michel 'Awn and Patriarch Sfayr, an exposed attempt to leave the issue of political reforms in flux and to link it with the Syrian presence in Lebanon. The political bureau maintained that it is necessary to approve a constitutional document which will commit the president of the Republic to reforms, particularly those pertaining to terminating political sectarianism; rebuilding the army on a clear, Arab, and national basis; and to the concept of sovereignty. Attention should therefore be paid to the fact that the Israeli occupation of part of Lebanese territory is the main obstacle to the imposition of national sovereignty over all of Lebanon.

2. The Political Bureau acquainted itself with the results of talks and meetings which the party leader and the delegation accompanying him held with Iranian leaders. It positively evaluated the results of this visit and saw in it an effective step toward developing joint relations in the various fields to serve the national struggle against imperialist schemes and those involving surrender. In this regard, the party emphasized the importance of the 6-member follow-up committee, which was formed in cooperation with the leaders in Syria and Iran.

3. While saluting the heroic intifadah of the Palestinian Arab people in the occupied territories, the political bureau calls on all in the nationalist areas to participate in a strike for 1 hour tomorrow, 10 October 1989, to express solidarity with the heroes of the stones in Palestine.

4. The Political Bureau denounced the kidnapping of two International Red Cross representatives in Sidon. It calls on the kidnappers and responsible quarters to make a serious effort to release them. It maintains that repeating such incidents will have a negative effect on the work and services of the humanitarian and international institutions in Lebanon.

5. The Political Bureau discussed party organizational matters and approved a number of recommendations and instructions for the party institutions.

Amal Conducting Purge of Pro-Hizballah Members

NC0810121989 *Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic*
1115 GMT 8 Oct 89

[Text] Our correspondent has learned that the Amal Movement is conducting a purge of pro-Hizballah cadres in its ranks. It has been learned that a number of persons, including two from the Hamiyah family, have been arrested.

According to reports, Walid Junblatt, leader of the Progressive Socialist Party, intends to introduce sweeping changes within his party after discovering that it has been infiltrated by Syrians and Palestinians. It has been learned that the changes will involve officials in Iqlim al-Kharrub, al-Shuf, and Beirut. Junblatt has dismissed the commander of the military police in al-Shuf and replaced him with Kamal 'Ammar.

Birri Wants Elimination of Political Sectarianism*NC0910183489 Beirut Voice of National Resistance
in Arabic 1430 GMT 9 Oct 89*

[Text] Minister Nabih Birri has said: We will not accept any agreement that does not provide for the absolute elimination of political sectarianism according to a specific timetable or any agreement specifying a constitutional provision that does not supersede the existing Constitution. The agreement should also affirm Lebanon's Arabism and support for the resistance to ensure Israel's withdrawal and the implementation of UN Resolution 425.

Minister Birri called for a transitional period for sectarianism to be eliminated, during which a rotational system will be applied for the posts of president, prime minister, and speaker as well as all other posts.

He noted that the Syrian Army will withdraw from Lebanon when the system is changed, 24 hours after the last Israeli soldier leaves Lebanon. Birri said that political Maronism has returned to the issue of Syrian withdrawal in order to avoid making a decision on changing the system or even conducting reforms. The issue of the Syrian presence was settled in an Arab document, and this document formed the basis on which the deputies went to al-Ta'if, he said.

Israeli 'Stringent Security Measures' Noted*NC1010083089 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
0430 GMT 10 Oct 89*

[Text] The Israeli occupation forces continue to pursue a policy of aggression against both the occupied and the liberated areas in the South. Jabal al-Dahr, Mimis, al-Jabbur, and Maydun have come under artillery shelling. Enemy forces also searched Jisr al-Qa'qa'iyah. It is reported that a state of general mobilization has been declared among the occupation forces and the agent militiamen. Enemy helicopters flew repeatedly over Mount Hermon, Zaghlah, Kawkaba, Hasbayya, and Marj 'Uyun.

Reports say that an armored force has taken up position close to the combat lines in al-Nabatiyah and al-'Ayshiyah. Israeli forces have introduced stringent security measures on the Lebanese-Palestinian borders and within the security strip on the occasion of Yom Kippur. These forces also closed several of the crossing points into the border strip and set up checkpoints to observe the roads and the travelers.

[Beirut Voice of National Resistance in Arabic at 0430 GMT on 10 October reports: "Three Zionist gunboats were sighted last night off the coasts of Iqlim al-Kharrib. The gunboats drew heavy-caliber machinegun fire and were forced to retreat."]

Beirut Radios on Resistance, Israeli Activity*NC0910191189*

[Editorial Report] Beirut Voice of National Resistance in Arabic at 1430 GMT on 9 October reports that, "According to reports received from the South, the Zionist enemy forces will ask the residents to use identity cards written in Arabic and Hebrew. This step, according to security reports, is considered very serious. The residents in the border area are afraid it will be similar to one implemented in the Golan Heights to distribute Israeli cards among the Arab residents by force.

"In another development, the agent Lahd militia yesterday stormed Shab'a with four halftrack vehicles and 30 soldiers. Militiamen then detained three Shab'a residents on charges of involvement with the resistance and took them to al-Khiyam prison.

"At dawn today, a mechanized Zionist force raked (Jun'um), (al-Rabbas) plain, and (al-Baq'ah) with various types of automatic weapons. This continued until 1000 today."

Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic at 1530 GMT on 9 October then reports, "The Lebanese national resistance front today issued a statement in which it announced that at dawn today the martyr Ahmad Jallul group detonated an explosive charge near a joint patrol of Israeli and agent Lahd militia forces on a military road in the 'Alman-al-Shumariyah area, burning and destroying a military vehicle and killing or wounding its passengers. Subsequently, the enemy carried out a wide-scale raking operation in which helicopters took part. The operation lasted 20 minutes."

Helicopter Flights to Larnaca To Resume*NC0810175389 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic
1615 GMT 8 Oct 89*

[Text] The Ministry of Foreign and Expatriate Affairs is currently involved in a diplomatic campaign with the Cypriot and Greek authorities in a bid to obtain permission to allow military helicopters to land at the Larnaca airport for civilian purposes. The CENTRAL NEWS AGENCY has reported that the campaign will produce positive results in light of the Cypriot authorities' positive response to the ongoing diplomatic efforts.

3 Syrians Injured in Attack in North Lebanon*NC0910093789 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic
0915 GMT 9 Oct 89*

[Text] The 16 January Organization for the Liberation of Tripoli has claimed responsibility for an attack last night on a roadblock in Kafr Shillan [in north Lebanon] manned by Syrian special units. The organization said that two Syrian soldiers as well as a Syrian intelligence officer were injured in the attack.

Group Claims Responsibility for Anti-Syrian Act

*NC0910194189 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic
1915 GMT 9 Oct 89*

[Text] The Martyr Rashid Karami group has declared that at 0530 this morning it blew up a Syrian troop position at the end of Iddah-al-Batrun road. Several Syrian soldiers were either killed or wounded in the attack.

Lahd Militia Patrol Attacked in South

*NC1010100289 Beirut Voice of National Resistance
in Arabic 0930 GMT 10 Oct 89*

[Text] In the South, a national resistance group detonated an explosive charge as a patrol from agent Lahd's militia was passing on the Bayt Lif road at dawn today. One of the patrol vehicles was destroyed in the attack.

Immediately afterward, the agent militia raked nearby areas with artillery, causing damage to several houses in Haris and Haddathah.

Israelis Fire Artillery Shells, Overfly South

*NC1010203389 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
1530 GMT 10 Oct 89*

[Text] A number of artillery shells fired from positions of the occupation forces on al-Zaffat hill fell in al-Luwayzah last night. Mechanized movements of the enemy and agent forces were monitored last night on the 'Alman-al-Shumariyah road. Flares were fired over Rshaf and Haddatha.

In another development, Israeli military aircraft flew low over the South at 1500 today.

Al-Shar' on Possibility of Pullout From Lebanon

LD1010184889 Kuwait KUNA in English 1725 GMT
10 Oct 89

[Text] Paris, Oct 10 (KUNA)—Syrian Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' Tuesday affirmed that there were guarantees for his country's troop withdrawal from Lebanon as soon as the Lebanese agree to a formula for national entente.

Al-Shar', in an interview with Radio Orient to be broadcast later tonight and an advance version of which was obtained by KUNA, said that Syria will work, in accordance with the Casablanca summit resolutions and the tripartite Arab committee's plan, to assist a national unity government in spreading sovereignty over all Lebanese soil.

"We do not wish to stay in Lebanon forever because our presence there is a sacrifice on our part," he elaborated.

"Syria in Lebanon is not an occupation power as some like to picture it but rather is there based on brotherly relations between the two countries," the Syrian chief diplomat emphasized.

Al-Shar' revealed that Damascus had presented commitments to the tripartite committee to assist a national unity government in Lebanon. He said that the Lebanese political system's malfunction should be reformed to ensure stability of that country and so that the tragedy would not recur once every ten years.

The Syrian minister charged head of the military government Gen. Michel 'Awn of reigniting the Lebanese civil war following many years of tranquility, by escalating fighting and spreading tension.

An agreement on political reforms is needed at present, he said, pointing out that a proposal is currently in the hands of the Lebanese deputies meeting in al-Ta'if, Saudi Arabia, since September 30.

Al-Shar' expressed his country's conviction that a political solution is the only way to settle the Lebanese crisis and hence did not respond to 'Awn's provocations and his attempts in the past six months to drag Syria into a "large-scale military operation in Lebanon."

He affirmed that if Syria was dragged into such a situation, the results would have been different and fighting would not have continued for six months.

Sending arms to 'Awn led to the escalation in combat and encouraged him to continue fighting and voice slogans on his war of liberation and destruction. Al-Shar' said, Syria believes that any settlement should include Israel's complete withdrawal from the occupied Arab territories and guarantee national and inalienable rights of the Palestinian people to ensure its success, regardless of which party is presenting such a settlement.

"I've told the Americans during my presence in New York that any settlement that does not group all concerned parties topped by Syria as a major partner and the PLO as well will not [words indistinct]," he underlined.

Al-Shar' asserted that the Palestinian people's intifadah had broken out to achieve independence and establish their own state.

Libya's Al-Humaydi Holds Talks in Damascus**Arrives, Makes Statement 7 Oct**

JN0710212489 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic
1915 GMT 7 Oct 89

[Text] Major al-Khuwaylidi al-Humaydi, member of the Libyan Revolution Command Council, and his accompanying delegation arrived in Damascus today. Al-Humaydi was received at Damascus international airport by Comrade Tawfiq Salihah, member of the Regional Command and head of the Regional Professional Unions and Legal Bureaus; head and members of the Libyan liaison bureau in Damascus; and the director of the Arab Homeland Department at the Foreign Ministry.

In a statement to SANA, Al-Humaydi said: We are today pleased to be in a Syria of steadfastness, struggle, and challenge—a Syria which rejects all imperialist and suspect Zionist schemes against the Arab cause. We have come to sisterly Syria, he added, to convey to President Hafiz al-Asad a pan-Arab message from Colonel Mu'amar al-Qadhafi, leader of the 1 September Revolution. During our stay in Syria we will have the opportunity to confer with brothers in sisterly Syria on pan-Arab issues and bilateral relations and means of bolstering them to the level of strategic unified action in all fields.

Received by Al-Asad

JN0810132989 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic
1215 GMT 8 Oct 89

[Text] President Hafiz al-Asad received Major al-Khuwaylidi al-Humaydi, member of the Libyan Revolution Command Council, and the accompanying delegation at 1230 today. The meeting was attended by Comrade Dr Tawfiq Salihah, Ba'th Party Regional Command member.

Confers With Defense Minister

JN0810154889 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1415 GMT
8 Oct 89

[Text] Damascus, 8 Oct (SANA)—General Mustafa Talas, deputy commander in chief of the Army and Armed Forces, deputy prime minister, and defense minister, today received Major al-Khuwaylidi al-Humaydi, member of Libya's Revolution Command Council and the delegation accompanying him. General Hikmat al-Shihabi, chief of staff of the Army and Armed Forces, attended.

During the meeting, they discussed ties of cooperation between the two brotherly armies and means to improve them in all fields.

Issues Statement, Leaves 8 Oct

JN0810171389 *Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic*
1615 GMT 8 Oct 89

[Text] Major al-Khuwaylidi al-Humaydi, member of Libya's 1 September Revolution Command Council, and the delegation accompanying him today left Damascus following a 2-day visit to Syria. He was seen off at Damascus international airport by Comrade Dr Tawfiq Salhah, member of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party Regional Command, and the heads of the Foreign Ministry's Arab Homeland Department and Protocols Department.

Before his departure, brother Al-Humaydi made a statement to the SANA correspondent in which he expressed his joy at visiting Syria and meeting with President Hafiz al-Asad, to whom he handed a message from his brother, Colonel Mu'ammad al-Qadhafi, leader of Libya's 1 September Revolution. The message deals with the current situation in the Arab region.

Al-Humaydi said: We were honored today to meet with the militant president, Hafiz al-Asad. He also expressed satisfaction at the talks he held with the president. He added: We always have the same feeling when meeting with President Hafiz al-Asad and the Syrian Arab people.

Brother Al-Humaydi went on to say: We conveyed to President Hafiz al-Asad the Libyan people's greetings and congratulations to the Syrian Arab Armed Forces on the occasion of the celebrations of the October liberation war. He added that the liberation war was a source of pride and glory for us and the Arab nation, especially since the Syrian Arab Army had confirmed the superior Arab military capability through its battles against the Zionist enemy, giving us hope in future battles to achieve the Arab nation's victories.

Concluding his statement, Al-Humaydi confirmed the Libyan Jamahiriyyah's support for Syria and that they stand together in the same trench against the Zionist enemy in order to liberate Palestine.

Cuban Communist Party Official Visits Damascus

Opens Talks With Ba'th Party

JN0810153889 *Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic*
1215 GMT 8 Oct 89

[Text] Damascus—A session of party talks were held at the Naional Command building here this morning between the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party delegation headed by Comrade Ahmad al-Hasan, reserve member of the National Command, and the Communist Party of Cuba's delegation headed by Comrade Rodolfo Puentes Ferro, member of the Central Committee and deputy

chairman of the Foreign Relations Department. The two sides discussed relations between the two parties and also voiced satisfaction with the existing relations and their development.

Comrade Hasan reviewed the economic and political situation and the recent achievements in Syria under comrade struggler Hafiz al-Asad, secretary general of the Ba'th Party and president of the republic. He stressed the basic principles of the Ba'th Party's policy and revolution regarding the Arab-Zionist conflict, the Palestine question, and the Palestinian people's legitimate right to liberate their land, determine their fate, and establish their own independent state on their homeland, Palestine. He also stressed support for the popular intifadah in the occupied territories, as well as support for the Lebanese brothers in ridding themselves of the abnormal situation and achieving a national accord based on justice, equality among all Lebanese citizens, and political reforms in the structure of the system.

The Cuban official also stressed the need to promote relations between the two friendly parties and countries, as well as the need to continue meetings and exchange ideas about all issues of common interest. He highly praised Syria's role under comrade struggler Hafiz al-Asad in confronting the Zionist enemy and supporting the Lebanese and Palestinian peoples. He also praised Syria's role in supporting the fight for liberation in the occupied territories and the achievement of a just national accord in Lebanon. The Cuban delegation arrived in Damascus last night.

Meets With Assembly Speaker

JN0910201589 *Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic*
1915 GMT 9 Oct 89

[Text] People's Assembly Speaker 'Abd-al-Qadir Qadurah today received Rodolfo Puentes Ferro, member of the Cuban Communist Party Central Committee and deputy chairman of the Foreign Relations Department, and his delegation.

In his speech, Mr Puentes Ferro discussed the lasting impressions formed from his visit to the liberated al-Qunaytirah city and the bestial destruction it had suffered. He affirmed that coexistence in this region with the Israeli fascist regime is impossible. He said victory will inevitably come through Arab liberation and progressive forces. He stressed that Cuba fully supports the Arabs' just causes of liberation, development, and progress.

After that, the People's Assembly speaker praised Cuba's stands supporting all liberation and progressive movements in the world, including the Arab liberation movement and its just causes. He referred to the Cuban revolution and its great cultural achievements under the leadership of the Cuban Communist Party.

Received by Al-Shar'

JN1010222889 *Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic*
1915 GMT 10 Oct 89

[Text] Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' received this afternoon Rodolfo Puentes Ferro, member of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Cuba, in the presence of the Cuban ambassador to Damascus. Talks dealt with relations between the two friendly countries and the international and regional situation.

Commentary Assails Arabs Who 'Turn to Peace'

PM0510122789 *Damascus AL-BATH in Arabic*
17 Sep 89 p 2

[Riyad Mahmud article: "When Will Arabs Realize the Danger?"]

[Text] It seems that those who delude themselves that Israel can be pushed toward establishing a just peace in the region have lost all ability to see the factors of reality or deduce future horizons to the extent that a neutral observer would be sickened by some Arab officials' attitudes.

Israel continues to deal with the inhabitants of the occupied Arab territories with a state of emergency. While this is happening, and while the Israelis believe that these inhabitants must eventually be expelled, these same people say that they are turning toward peace!

And while Israel continues to develop arms and destructive missile weapons and issues regulations and decisions considering anyone wearing Arab headgear a target for its forces; while it continues to issue orders to its forces to shoot any veiled Arab; and while it continues to set up special military units and train them to serve for long periods in the occupied Arab areas, we still see some Arabs and Palestinians taken in by Shamir's deceptive initiative on holding elections in the occupied Arab territories. In fact, some have become so blind that they have proposed some amendments to it and agreed to most of its points!

Israel seeks Arab territory as a whole. It is doing its utmost to prepare the international and internal climate for expansion and aggression, and it will not backtrack from achieving that objective. This is because any backtracking from its objectives would mean its inevitable end. It knows that, and so do the Arabs. Anything other than that is a maneuver to play for time and wait for conditions to change.

If the opposite is case, what is the meaning of Israel's killing of more than one thousand citizens, crippling of several thousands, and detention of tens of thousands of the sons of the Palestinian Arab people since the intifadah started?

Besides, how can some Arabs turn to peace when Israel is committing hundreds of crimes and violating the Palestinian Arab people's rights and sanctities?

And because the intifadah understands the enemy's nature better than those who are turning to peace, it has rejected all his maneuvers and initiatives. It also rejected all Arab amendments to his plans and programs. And it has announced the continuation of struggle in order to achieve its real objectives.

Syria has stressed on many occasions that what was taken by forces can only be recovered by force. It has urged the Arabs to build a power equal to the enemy's, proceeding from the principle that there can be no bargaining over dignity and existence and that anyone doing that joins the ranks of the nation's enemies, regardless of whether or not he is aware of it. The question is: When will the Arabs realize the imminent danger to their existence?

Deputies Urged To Ignore 'Awn's 'Threats'

JN0710092489 *Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic*
0545 GMT 7 Oct 89

[From the press review]

[Text] Under the title "Lebanon's Salvation," TISHRIN says in its "Behind the News" column: The Lebanese deputies in al-Ta'if have reaffirmed that failure is forbidden and that they are determined to emerge with a plan for national accord. Such a plan must include basic reforms and satisfy the demands of the Lebanese masses, especially since the principles included in the accord document are not only supported by the Lebanese, but have become an urgent Arab demand.

There is semi-unanimous agreement in al-Ta'if to establish distinguished Lebanese-Syrian relations, relations which are imposed by history, geography, and joint destiny and that are underlined by bonds of closeness.

There is also semi-unanimity over the necessity to create political reforms, overcome the sectarian system, and end all forms of tyranny and oppression so that justice and equality will prevail in society. Everyone will be treated on the basis of their belonging to the nation and not to this sect or that.

As for sovereignty, the deputies reaffirmed that Lebanon is Arab in identity and affiliation and that Lebanese sovereignty does not contradict Arabism, but is complementary to it. Lebanon—Arab Lebanon—gives to the Arabs and takes from them because theirs is a common destiny. Within this framework, the Syrian forces guarantee Lebanon's unity and security. All efforts and energies should be united to remove the Israeli occupier from the territories in the south.

TISHRIN adds: If we revise the reform measures in the Arab tripartite committee's document, we will find that these measures are characterized by great moderation. No single Lebanese citizen or deputy is ignorant of the fact that Lebanon cannot isolate itself and wrench itself away from the demands of the age. There isn't a single constitution in the world that contains such sectarian

differences. There isn't a single country in the world that treats its citizens as first or second class citizens.

Political sectarianism has destroyed and ruined Lebanon to an extent which urges each honest and faithful Lebanese to demand its immediate abolition. All Lebanese today agree on the absolute necessity to abolish sectarianism. If this is not the case with 'Awn, then the latter is implementing an anti-Lebanon and anti-Lebanese Israeli plan. The destruction he has caused in Lebanon is proof enough of this.

The deputies of the eastern sector are called on to rise to the required level of responsibility and actual participation in saving Lebanon. Covering up for 'Awn and his anti-reform, anti-reconciliation scheme will only lead to further destruction and tragedy. The only loser in such a case would be Lebanon. Dotting the i's and crossing the t's and freeing oneself from the general's threats leads to certain salvation.

Commentary Denounces 'Awn's Positions, Plans

JN0910151289 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic
1230 GMT 9 Oct 89

[Station commentary]

[Text] The al-Ta'if parliamentary meeting has stumbled as a result of the obstacles placed by 'Awn's supporters and the deputies who fear a return to Beirut and the possible threats from the al-Yarzah general. Despite all the efforts being exerted by the Arab committee and the appeals being made by the overwhelming majority of the deputies, the East Beirut general continues his tough position by demanding a Syrian withdrawal or Syrian guarantees.

In fact, this is not the first time the isolationists have tried to undermine efforts to achieve accord. Lebanon and its people have suffered much from the maneuvers of the isolationists over the past 14 years. Whenever the efforts of Syria and the Arabs succeed in bringing viewpoints closer and approach a solution, the isolationists attack the solution and abort the success. In fact, the isolationists do not want a national accord, because accord requires a radical reform of the current system, the cancellation of the political sectarianism and prestige, and the adoption of justice, equality, and equal opportunities. They completely reject this because they want Lebanon to be part of the West and outside the Arab family. They also view the other factions as secondary, although these factions constitute the majority.

This sectarian vision has prompted the isolationists to deal with Israel and all the sides that are hostile to the Arabs and Arabism. By linking reform to the Syrian withdrawal, they, in fact, are searching for an excuse to prevent reform, which will reflect positively on the Lebanese citizens and will help eradicate the roots of sedition and extinguish the internal fire. He who wishes Lebanon and the Lebanese citizens well has no excuse to reject reform, especially since reform will lead to accord. Syria has repeatedly announced that its forces will withdraw from Lebanon if accord is achieved.

Syrian forces entered Lebanon in response to the appeals made by the Lebanese brothers to provide security and stability for them, prevent the expansion of sedition, and confront Israel's plans to disrupt Lebanon and turn it into a Zionist protectorate hostile to the Arabs. When there is no compelling reason, Syria will not keep its forces in Lebanon and the Lebanese citizens will not need the Syrian forces there. This is obvious and is realized by all the Arabs and the Lebanese. The Lebanese National Front, through deputy member Zahir al-Khatib, yesterday announced that the Syrian forces remain in Lebanon at the official, popular, and spiritual request of the Lebanese people.

Why, then, is there an insistence on the withdrawal of the Syrian forces? It is obvious that 'Awn and his clique are planning to harm the Lebanese, and that demanding the withdrawal of the Syrian forces is aimed at facilitating the mission for the isolationists to continue the Zionization project and extracting Lebanon from its Arabism. Syria's presence there has prevented partitioning and also prevented Israel from laying its hands on the Lebanese people's destinies. Demanding a Syrian withdrawal also means a rejection of the political reform, to which, on one hand, the Lebanese people aspire, and on the other, the achievement of a Zionist desire. In fact, the danger of the Syrian presence there is directed only at one side and hampers its designs: This side is Israel and its tools in Lebanon.

If we review 'Awn's recent positions, we find that he continues to reject any effort to achieve accord, that he continues to threaten the East Beirut deputies, and that he threatens the Lebanese to resume the war of destruction with Israel's help and Saddam's weapons and grudges. In light of this, the success of the al-Ta'if meeting depends on distancing 'Awn from the political solution and on dotting the i's regarding his usurpation of authority. 'Awn, in the final analysis, does not represent East Beirut or the Lebanese army, most of which is located in West Beirut. Dealing with 'Awn will only lead to a crisis. 'Awn, in this crisis, represents only one side: The enemies of Lebanon, Arabism, and the Arab cause—the Zionist enemy, and Saddam Husayn.

Afghanistan

Rocket Attack on Kabul Kills, Injures 'Several'

BK1010141689 Hong Kong AFP in English 1409 GMT
10 Oct 89

[Text] Kabul, Oct 10 (AFP)—An Afghan guerrilla rocket attack left several people dead and many more injured in the centre of Kabul Tuesday at about 5 p.m. local time (1330 GMT), according to witnesses. The rocket hit a bus station next to the Kabul River and behind the central post office, the witnesses said.

The Army sealed off the area as ambulances, their sirens blaring, rushed the victims to hospital. Witnesses said dozens of people must have been killed or injured by the rocket, and journalists reported seeing a truck loaded with mutilated bodies.

No casualty figures were immediately available from official or hospital sources.

Afghan Government Spokesman Muhammad Nabi Amani said three rockets had hit the town, but did not give casualty figures.

25 Dead, 50 Wounded in Attack

BK1010155389 Hong Kong AFP in English 1541 GMT
10 Oct 89

[Text] Kabul, Oct 10 (AFP)—Twenty-five people were killed and at least 50 were wounded Tuesday when a rocket believed to have been fired by rebel guerrillas slammed into a bus station in central Kabul, officials said. Several hundred people were lined up waiting at the station, behind the main post office, when the rocket hit, witnesses said.

Government Spokesman Muhammad Nabi Amani said six rockets had rained down on the Afghan capital in one of the worst attacks in recent weeks.

Army troops sealed off the area as ambulances, their sirens blaring, rushed the victims to hospital. Journalists reported seeing a truck loaded with mutilated bodies.

An officer showed them a piece of the rocket inscribed, he said, with the name of one of seven Sunni Muslim parties based in neighbouring Pakistan, the Islamic Revolution Movement.

The attack was one of the worst here in recent weeks and followed four days of relative calm. Four attacks between October 1 and 4 killed 27 people and left 53 wounded, according to Afghan authorities. The violence is part of a civil war still raging despite the withdrawal of Soviet troops eight months ago after almost 10 years.

'Murderous Extremists' Blamed

LD1010174989 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari
1530 GMT 10 Oct 89

[Text] Pakistan-backed criminal extremists, the enemies of our people's life and property, carried out another criminal and shocking act by firing five U.S. surface-to-surface rockets at Kabul city. This has added another black page to their shameful crimes. One of the rockets landed on a crowded bus station causing bloody carnage and dozens of our compatriots families were grieving on the eve of the birthday of the great prophet of Islam, Muhammad, peace be upon him, once again demonstrating the opposition of those criminals to the religion of Islam and the lofty shari'a of Muhammad.

The BAKHTAR correspondent reported from the scene of that painful incident that happened as Kabul citizens were going home at the end of a working day or shopping and were gathering at bus stops. One of the U.S. rockets, which was launched at the orders of the servants of state terrorism from the United States and Pakistan, landed on the bus stop. As a result, many of our innocent compatriots, passengers, and street vendors who, in the spirit of Islamic brotherhood and with hearts imbued with sincerity, were preparing to mark Prophet Muhammad's birthday, were soaked in blood; this included children, women, and elderly people.

It was indeed a painful scene, and the bus stop and the road were stained with the blood of our innocent people. Human limbs and parts littered the area. The screams of women, children, and pedestrians filled the air. Amputated limbs, and blood-stained bits of bodies and the victims of that terrifying incident were visible everywhere. Our compatriots while expressing their hatred loudly and weeping uncontrollably were engaged in helping the injured and collecting the amputated limbs.

The BAKHTAR military correspondent adds that as a result of long-range rocket fire by the murderous extremists, 23 of our compatriots, including innocent children and women, were martyred and a number of others were wounded. The loss of life in the incident is probably more than this estimate. Those injured were immediately taken to hospitals and are receiving treatment.

It is generally believed that today's rockets were fired by those Saudi Wahhabis who are involved in fighting in the Kabul area as part of subversive terrorist armed extremist groups because the Prophet's birthday is not considered by the Wahhabis as a sacred day.

Army Convoy Abandons Effort To Resupply Qandahar

BK1110022289 Hong Kong AFP in English 0208 GMT
11 Oct 89

[By Sami Zubeiri]

[Text] Islamabad, Oct 11 (AFP)—The Afghan regime has abandoned its seven-week effort to push a massive

relief convoy through a mujahidin cordon to supply the southern city of Qandahar, Western diplomats here said.

In one of its biggest tactical gambles, the regime had moved a monster caravan of more than 1,000 vehicles loaded with food and ammunition intended for its besieged troops in Qandahar. But the diplomats, requesting anonymity, said Tuesday [10 October] that the latest satellite reports show that most of the trucks in the convoy were returning northward with their cargoes still on board. About one vehicle in 10 apparently managed to straggle through.

The relief convoy began its arduous journey on August 23, after crossing the Towraghondi border with the Soviet Union.

Moving at a snail's pace, the convoy crept to Lashkar Gah, some 140 kilometers (85 miles) west of Qandahar, where it was bogged down for the past month, the diplomats said.

Mujahidin guerrillas have been besieging Kabul's troops in Qandahar, Afghanistan's second-largest city. The guerrillas had blocked the routes into Qandahar and, in repeated ambushes, the convoy lost at least 108 tanks and trucks during the first week, according to resistance sources.

Some 100 vehicles of the 30-kilometer-long (18-mile) caravan managed to zig-zag over sand dunes of the Rigestan deserts to reach Qandahar on September 15. They arrived amid much fanfare and to a rousing welcome arranged by the regime for the much-publicised supplies, reporters specially flown in for the ceremony reported.

But the sources said most of the convoy had split up in western Grishk and Delaram towns, although Kabul continued to claim that the caravan was close to its destination.

According to the diplomats, the convoy originally included some 200 Soviet-made tanks, along with more than 1,000 vehicles loaded with tons of weapons and munitions badly needed by the troops in Qandahar. The convoy was carrying supplies sufficient to last six months, a resistance source said.

The regime tried to deliver the cargo from 10-ton heavy trucks by shuttling groups of small trucks back and forth across the desert between Lashkar Gah and Qandahar, the diplomats said. But "this shuttle operation is now being wound up," one diplomat said.

Other sources confirmed that the defensive positions built in the middle of Rigestan to protect the shuttle operation have already been dismantled.

Some 400 vehicles that had been still sitting in Lashkar Gah were now reported to be heading back to Shindand base, the point from which they started down the road to Qandahar last August, the diplomats said.

Mujahidin Regain Important Kabul-Bagram Road

*BK1010024289 Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu
0200 GMT 10 Oct 89*

[Text] Reports from Afghanistan say that the mujahidin have recaptured an important road between Kabul and Bagram which was constructed after the closure of the Salang highway. The seizure of the road has resulted in the suspension of military supplies to Kabul. The Kabul regime had sent a massive contingent of armored unit to reopen the road, but they were forced by the mujahidin to retreat. Clashes are continuing in the region.

In another operation, the mujahidin destroyed a military camp at (Rud-e Ab) in Samangan Province.

Mujahidin Kill 68, Capture 400 in Ghazni Clash

*BK0910163289 Hong Kong AFP in English 1620 GMT
9 Oct 89*

[Text] Islamabad, Oct 9 (AFP)—Afghan mujahidin guerrillas have captured 400 militiamen and killed 68 in three days of fighting in eastern province of Ghazni, the pro-resistance AFGHAN ISLAMIC PRESS (AIP) reported Monday.

AIP said that 500 guerrillas from four different mujahidin parties launched a joint attack Saturday against Sorkh Qal'eh village, some 60 kilometres (40 miles) south of Ghazni, the provincial capital. The mujahidin also captured a large quantity of weapons and food supplies, the agency said.

Thirteen mujahidin were killed and 41 injured during the attack, adding that the fighting in the area continued for the control of the village.

India

'Pandemonium' in Rajya Sabha Over Bofors, Desai

*BK1110082989 Delhi Domestic Service in English
0730 GMT 11 Oct 89*

[Text] The reconvened 4-day session of Parliament began this morning. Pandemonium broke out in the Rajya Sabha as soon as the new members took the oath of office and chairman disposed of the routine matters in the house.

Several opposition members were on their feet demanding that the prime minister should come to the house and clear the position regarding reports published in a section of the press concerning the 155-mm howitzer gun deal.

Ruling party members demanded a full-fledged discussion on the alleged CIA links of the former prime minister, Mr Morarji Desai, and facts to be placed before the house about the foreign accounts of the son of the Janata Dal leader, Mr V.P. Singh.

There were shouts and counter-shouts from both the sides for nearly 45 minutes. The chairman, Dr Shankar Dayal Sharma, repeatedly ruled that he has no rights to call the prime minister to the house and he cannot create a wrong precedent. He said he has allowed a short duration discussion on the matter raised by the opposition after consulting the government. Dr Shankar Dayal Sharma said the stalling of business of the house will amount to stalling a debate on important issues. The chairman said if the opposition so desires, it can bring a no-confidence motion against the government. Dr Shankar Dayal Sharma asked the opposition again and again whether they were starting the short duration discussion. But the opposition remained adamant in its demand.

The chairman ruled that as the opposition do not want to start the discussion, the house will proceed with the listed business. Amidst noisy scenes he called the minister of state for education, Mr L.P. Shahi, to move the Nagaland University Bill. As Mr Shahi started making a statement, several opposition members moved into the well of the house and started raising antigovernment slogans. At one stage, the leader of the house, Mr Shiv Shankar, said the government is ready for an immediate discussion on the subject. He said baseless allegations have been sought to be leveled against the prime minister and asked the opposition to prove in what way he is involved in the deal. The parliamentary affairs minister, Mr H.K.L. Bhagat, was also seen making some observations, but nothing could be heard in the din. The deputy leader of the ruling party in the house, Mr M.K.P. Salve, said that they are prepared for a meaningful discussion. He said the matter concerns the Defense Ministry and not the prime minister.

The deputy chairperson, Dr Najma Heftullah, who later occupied the chair, called members to participate in the discussion on the bill. The opposition, however, continued their slogan shouting. Mr M.S. Gurupadaswamy, Janata Dal, who had raised the issue with other opposition members, said as the prime minister has not been called to the house the discussion cannot be meaningful. Following his observations, most of the opposition members staged a walkout. The discussion on the Nagaland University Bill is continuing.

Some Congress-I members in the Lok Sabha demanded an inquiry into the alleged CIA links of the erstwhile Janata government. Raising the issue during zero hour, they said this is necessary in the light of the U.S. federal court judgment dismissing the suit filed by the former prime minister, Mr Morarji Desai, against an American author.

In the Lok Sabha, members from both sides expressed serious concern over the communal situation in different parts of the country. They alleged that fundamentalist elements are creating a situation of confrontation among different communities. They urged the speaker to allow discussion on the subject. The speaker, Mr Balram Jakhar, said since the whole house is unanimous on the

urgency to tackle the communal problem, the house will take up a special discussion on the subject at 1600 [1030 GMT] today.

Desai Views Chicago Court Ruling on Libel Suit

*BK0810052489 Delhi Domestic Service in English
0240 GMT 8 Oct 89*

[Text] The former prime minister, Mr Morarji Desai, has lost his \$100 million libel suit against American author Mr Seymour Hersh. In his 1983 book, the Pulitzer award winning author had alleged that Mr Desai was a paid CIA informant. A Federal Court jury in Chicago has ruled that Mr Hersh did not libel Mr Desai. He [as heard] said that Mr Desai's attorney had failed to prove that Mr Hersh acted out of malice or that he knew his information to be incorrect. These are the two main requirements for the success of a libel suit in America.

Mr Hersh had testified before the jury that he relied on six highly placed U.S. Government sources for his information and that each of them independently named Mr Desai as an informant and that he had no reason to doubt what he had been told. Mr Hersh had alleged in his book that Mr Desai spied for the United States and was paid \$20,000 a year by the CIA. The former U.S. secretary of state, Mr Henry Kissinger, appearing as a witness for Mr Desai said that he had no such reason to believe that. But the six-member jury rejected Mr Desai's plea and said that Mr Desai had failed to meet the strictest standards of proof in any libel case involving public figures. These standards required Mr Desai to prove either that Mr Hersh knew the statements about him were false or that he had serious doubts about the truth of those statements.

Reacting to the reported judgment, Mr Desai said in Bombay that allegations made against him by Mr Hersh in his book "Price of Power" were baseless. Mr Desai added that he would supply lawyer whatever further information he wanted to enable him to appeal to a higher court in the United States.

The former prime minister, Mr Morarji Desai, who headed the Janata Party government, composed of erstwhile different opposition groups, did not appear on grounds of health before the U.S. district judge, Charles Norgy, who heard the case. Mr Desai was represented by his attorney besides his videotape deposition.

'Diplomatic Initiative' Against Fiji Planned

*BK0610134989 Hong Kong AFP in English 1303 GMT
6 Oct 89*

[Text] New Delhi, Oct 6 (AFP)—India is set to launch a major diplomatic initiative on Fiji, ahead of the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting in Kuala Lumpur later this month, official sources said here Friday [6 October].

Special envoys would soon be sent to various Commonwealth capitals to ensure that the South Pacific island

nation did not escape censure during the summit, scheduled for October 18 to 24, a senior government official said.

"We are already lobbying among other Commonwealth countries in this connection," said the Foreign Ministry official. He did not give details, but the envoys are expected to visit Australia, New Zealand and Britain.

India's ambassador in Suva, T.P. Sreenivasan, has been summoned here for consultations with ministers and other officials ahead of the diplomatic move, the official said.

Fiji lost its membership of the Commonwealth in 1987 following a military coup in May that year, which ousted an Indian-dominated government, and a subsequent coup in September, led by Army chief Sitiveni Rabuka.

Since then, India has repeatedly accused Suva of discriminating against Fijians of Indian origin, some 48 percent of the 850,000 population.

The official said Australia and New Zealand, which along with India had strongly condemned the 1987 coups, had come to accept the "reality" in Suva because of their economic and trade links with Fiji.

The official said 20,000 Fijian Indians had left the South Pacific island since the military coup, mainly to Australia and New Zealand, adding that 50,000 might leave in the next five years.

The official said Fijian Indians were not interested in returning to India for several reasons, including the fact that they would be poorer here.

On Thursday, India's Foreign Minister P.V. Narasimha Rao attacked Fiji in the United Nations for allegedly practising racial discrimination and said he regretted that the international community was not condemning Suva.

Minister Leaves for Commonwealth Summit Meeting

*BK1010132489 Delhi Domestic Service in English
1230 GMT 10 Oct 89*

[Text] The minister of state for external affairs, Mr Natwar Singh, today left New Delhi for New Zealand and Australia for consultations on the issues likely to figure prominently during the forthcoming Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting, CHOGM. Mr Singh is carrying letters from the prime minister, Mr Rajiv Gandhi, for the prime ministers of both the countries. While in New Zealand, he will also meet the former prime minister of Fiji, Mr Timoci Bavadra.

Public Sector Producing Space, Nuclear Equipment

*BK0810125789 Delhi Domestic Service in English
1230 GMT 8 Oct 89*

[Text] The public sector Bharat Heavy Plates and Vessels Ltd achieved a record turnover of over 140 crore rupees

during 1988-89. The Vishakhapatnam-based company has been producing sophisticated equipment ranging from large space simulation chambers for the Indian Space Research Organization and heavy water heat exchangers for the Nuclear Power Corporation.

Bodo Tribesmen Kill 9 in Nalbari District, Assam

*BK0810160989 Delhi Domestic Service in English
1530 GMT 8 Oct 89*

[Text] In Assam, Bodo [tribal] miscreants shot dead last night nine persons and injured several others in Bhoragaon and Mahisabari villages of Nalbari District. Official sources in Guwahati said that a large group of miscreants attacked the villagers and killed six on the spot. Three other seriously injured persons succumbed to their injuries in the hospital. Police have launched a massive manhunt to apprehend the culprits.

In another incident, some miscreants shot dead two persons and injured six this afternoon at Nalbari town.

6 Police, 4 Others Killed

*BK1110074589 Delhi Domestic Service in English
0730 GMT 11 Oct 89*

[Text] In Assam, 10 persons including 6 policemen were killed when a powerful bomb blew up a bus in Nalbari District yesterday evening. Three others were seriously injured. The bus, requisitioned by police, was on its way to Nalbari when the incident took place at Bagantara-Uttarkach road. The dead included the bus driver and three civilians who took a lift in the vehicle.

Police suspect that the incident might be an act of Bodo [Assam tribal] militants.

Indefinite Curfew in Rajasthan Following Clashes

*BK1110093489 Delhi Domestic Service in English
0830 GMT 11 Oct 89*

[Text] In Rajasthan, an indefinite curfew has been clamped in Jahazpur town in Bhilwara District following violent incidents. Agency reports say 21 people were injured in clashes yesterday.

2 Killed, 30 Injured in Karnataka Violence

*BK1010160689 Delhi Domestic Service in English
1530 GMT 10 Oct 89*

[Text] In Karnataka, two persons were killed and thirty others injured in police firing at Hauzpet in Bellari District last night. According to reports reaching Bangalore, the police resorted to firing when two groups of people indulged in stone-pelting. The injured have been admitted to the hospital; they include some police personnel. Additional police force has been rushed and prohibitory orders have been promulgated in the town. One hundred twenty-five persons have been arrested so far. The situation is under control.

Violent Incidents Continue in Punjab State

4 'Terrorists,' 10 Others Killed

BK0810164089 Delhi Doordarshan Television Network
in English 1600 GMT 8 Oct 89

[Text] In Punjab, 14 persons, including 4 terrorists, were killed since last night. One of the terrorists was lynched to death by irate mob in Basti Bela Singh village in Ferozepore District. The terrorist has been identified as Sudhev Singh. Another terrorist, Ginder Singh, alias Ginder, was captured by the villagers in Faridkot District before he tried to get himself electrocuted. They handed him over to the police.

According to an official spokesman, the bullet-ridden bodies of two terrorists were found, one outside Udaypur village in Mehta area and the other in Kathwal village in Kathumangal area of Amritsar District. One of the killed terrorists has been identified as Lakhan Singh.

An unidentified bullet-ridden body of a terrorist was found near village Kudwal in Majitha District. Police say he was a victim of inter-gang rivalry. Four people were shot dead at Shahpur village in Sangrur District last night.

23 'Terrorists' Arrested

BK0910161489 Delhi Domestic Service in English
1530 GMT 9 Oct 89

[Text] In Punjab, 23 terrorists have been arrested since last night. According to an official spokesman, most of them were arrested in Amritsar District. A large quantity of arms and ammunition have been recovered from their possession.

4 'Terrorists' Arrested in Jullundur

BK1010045489 Delhi Domestic Service in English
0435 GMT 10 Oct 89

[Text] In Punjab, the security forces arrested four terrorists and recovered a large quantity of arms and ammunition from their possession in Jullundur District last night. According to an official spokesman, the recovery included one rocket launcher, 15 rockets and foreign-made pistols and revolvers. Their arrests and recovery followed a raid on a terrorist hideout in village Mitthu Basti. The spokesman said the terrorists were planning a major crime when nabbed.

Curfew Imposed in Gujarat Town After Clashes

BK1110030889 Delhi Domestic Service in English
0240 GMT 11 Oct 89

[Text] In Gujarat, an indefinite curfew has been imposed in the Vijapur town in Mehsana District from 0600 [0030 GMT] yesterday evening, following group clashes. The clashes followed stone throwing incidents during a procession. The police was forced to resort to firing to disperse the violent mob. One person died in the firing. The situation is now under control.

Editorial Notes Challenge to Bhutto's Authority

BK0610141789 Delhi THE HINDUSTAN TIMES
in English 27 Sep 89 p 13

[Editorial: "Benazir—Skating on Thin Ice"]

[Text] The tender sapling of democracy in Pakistan is up against a storm less than a year of its sprouting. Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto is trying to face up to the adversities gamely, but the odds against her seem to be multiplying. The latest challenge to her authority has shaped up in the form of a no-confidence motion against the ruling Pakistan's People's Party Government in the National Assembly. The threat has been averted temporarily, as the motion is not going to be pressed. Since the National Assembly will adjourn on October 5, Ms Bhutto's coalition government would be faced with no danger. The temporary respite will enable the Prime Minister to complete a few routine diplomatic assignments, such as visiting the South Asian countries as the current SAARC [South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation] chairperson. She could attend the Commonwealth Heads of Government meeting due in Kuala Lumpur next month, a crucial engagement which enables her to register Pakistan's return to the Commonwealth from which her father had pulled the country out 17 years ago. Ms Bhutto could also have visited India either as Pakistan Prime Minister or SAARC chairperson, or in both capacities. But she has reportedly decided to drop the idea of coming to India at all, ostensibly to placate her political opposition in the IJI [Islamic Jamhoori Ittehad] which has kept up its offensive against her on a charge of sell-out to India. Clearly, Ms Bhutto is forced to give as much importance to the unseen blessings of the military to the IJI as to its status as a democratic opposition.

If Ms Bhutto feels sufficiently pressured to cancel her India visit to re-establish her patriotic credentials, then the health of Pakistan's democracy ought to cause concern. Punjab Chief Minister Nawaz Sharif, who is also the IJI leader, never questioned as a Muslim League leader, General Zia's numerous visits to India. Perhaps he was convinced Gen. Zia was fundamentally wedded to the philosophy of hostility towards India, and is not sure that Ms Bhutto is. If the opposition-military stance succeeds in putting Ms Bhutto on the defensive, the objective of improving Indo-Pak relations would receive a setback. This is regrettable, but it need not cause dismay, for Mr Nawaz Sharif's policy of confrontation with India will help him little and Pakistan much less. With the blessings of the military, he may hinder Ms Bhutto's policies on various fronts weakening the federal structure of Pakistan. Eventually, this would lead to prolonged political instability encouraging the military to step in, whatever Gen. Aslam Beg's present protestations are. If the pressure on her government reaches the breaking point, Ms Bhutto may be justified in considering the suggestion of a section of the People's Party that she dissolve the National Assembly and seek a fresh

mandate. Her long-term salvation seems to lie in a clear parliamentary majority, although the path to achieve this is full of uncertainties.

Iran

Hashemi-Rafsanjani News Conference on Economy

NC0910084089 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
0430 GMT 9 Oct 89

[News conference held by President Hojjat ol-Eslam val-Moslemin 'Ali Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani in Tehran on 9 October—recorded]

[Text] [Unidentified correspondent] Mr Hashemi-Rafsanjani, greetings. The cabinet will shortly submit the bill on the government's 5-year plan to the Majlis. Could you please tell us what changes have been made to the plan and when it will be submitted?

[Hashemi-Rafsanjani] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. As you all know, the previous government had almost completed work on the plan but the plan had not been submitted for government approval. The government had given a copy of the prepared text to the Majlis. On the basis of this, that is, the completed but not the approved text, the Majlis is working on the preliminaries so that it may be ready for the plan that we submit. A new government has been established, and it should approve this plan prior to submitting it to the Majlis. When we brought the plan to the cabinet for approval, we saw that the ministers voiced various opinions; in other words, they did not accept it 100 percent. We agreed, therefore, that we should discuss the plan, but as briefly as possible, in order not to get embroiled in trivial details.

So we decided that these important points which the ministers and officials raised and the new policy which the government wished to incorporate in the plan should be debated. On the 1st day, we did not think it would take so long. We thought it would be completed within 2-3 weeks. Once the discussions began, it gradually transpired that certain vital points should be included in the plan. Therefore, we debated it patiently and some changes were made as a result. I will now speak about those changes. We did not alter the basic plan, or its skeleton; it remains almost as the previous government prepared it. We did make some important changes, however, the most salient of which I will speak about now. You will be informed of the details of the plan, as well as all peripheral matters, when they are debated in the Majlis. The Plan and Budget Organization and the relevant ministers will inform you of the main aspects of the entire plan in due course.

I will only mention the changes in general. I have noted down what I think is important in the changes we made, about 10-15 points. Of those important axes where we made changes, or on the basis of which we made some modifications, one concerns attention to production. We

pinpointed low production as one of the causes of society's problems at present. Most of our amendments, therefore, are in this regard.

Another point was the weakness in the field of nonoil exports. We therefore laid greater emphasis on including provisions that would encourage an increase in nonoil exports and enable us to make our industries self-sufficient and also liberate ourselves from the fetters of a single-product export, that is, oil.

In our view, many important matters had not been dealt with to an adequate extent and so we inserted a considerable number of important plans and specified the manner in which they will be implemented in the next 7-8 years. We laid stress on gas, oil, petrochemicals, cement, mines, tires, paper, and other similar products, each of which is of immense importance for certain reasons which I will state now.

For us the monetary issue is an important one. The country's monetary structure, foreign exchange, the multiplicity of exchange rates, that is, the fact that there is an immense difference between the government rate and the free rate, all constitute one of the main problems with our economy, and rectification of this situation is now a high priority.

In our plan, the budget deficit has always contributed to inflation and has led to numerous problems. Therefore, a way has been envisaged to reduce our budget deficit.

Regarding employment, we have concentrated on resolving this issue. Of course this was also done earlier. I do not mean that any of these points had been ignored in the previous plan. We merely emphasized them and made some changes to present them in an improved context.

On administrative affairs, we based our policy on the need to bolster the quality of government institutions, their efficiency, and their specialized personnel, but not at the expense of the number of employees. We are not planning to dismiss people. We are going to endeavor to absorb manpower on the criterion of quality so that they may improve the condition of the institutions. In order to raise the standard of living of government employees, we formulated our program in such a way as to ensure that the purchasing power of the employees is maintained. The private sector usually adapts itself to economic conditions. Government employees, however, cannot perform this task. We should, therefore, do it for them on the basis of a policy which we have recommended to the Majlis in this program.

I will give some instances in this connection; for example, I said that attention should be given to industrial exports in order to build up foreign exchange and reach industrial self-sufficiency. We inserted a clause stipulating that \$9 billion worth of industrial products be exported in the course of these 5 years, part of which will be given to the industries to enable them to procure the materials, export, and produce, and what exceeds

domestic needs can be exported. [sentence as heard] In this regard, we have a program to supply foreign exchange to our existing industries as well, so that by procuring parts and materials they can function at their optimum capacity.

In the previous government's plan, the sum had already been allocated but we increased it. In this manner, foreign exchange will be given to them in three ways: Government foreign exchange at government rates will be given to this sector so that their products, sensitive, essential consumer goods, can be sold at cost. I do not want them to be expensive at all. A favorable foreign exchange rate will be made available for this sector at an appropriate rate so that they may produce to their maximum capacity, put their products at the disposal of the people, and then export part of what they produce. As of today, the Central Bank has announced this policy and we have started it already on the basis of certain resources we had on hand. The Majlis also approved this earlier. Therefore, we can sell some of our foreign exchange at preferential rates and we have begun doing this. This policy has already been initiated and is being implemented. When the Majlis approves what we give, that is, after the plan's approval, this activity will assume greater proportions and increase.

We have also accorded great importance to the primary industries. Part of this essential program was already in the plan and we have added another segment, enabling organizations to sign agreements with foreign parties, with companies, and governments [ba manabe'-ye khareji, ba sherkat ha, va dowlatha] and implement projects in such a way that they will be able to repay their own foreign exchange debts from the income from these projects. The government does not as yet wish to give foreign exchange to organizations for such projects. It merely wishes to create possibilities for them so they can implement their projects; for example, there is an important papermaking factory. At present, our need of paper is such that if we have a papermaking factory, within 2 years it will have repaid all its foreign exchange expenditure. If we wish to purchase paper, economizing in the production of [words indistinct] it will be absorbed in 2 years; that is, our foreign exchange expenditure.

The same applies, for example, to the manufacture of tires and other such products, and to other important industrial products of which the country is in great need and for which it is at present dependent on imports. These industries could then function on the basis of the possibilities [jemkanat] that would accrue to them from abroad. They should not ask anything from the government, they can sign agreements once the factory is completed and operating so that part of its production will be used to cover costs of depreciation [estehlak].

There are more important industries, such as petrochemicals and gas extraction, which deserve more of our attention, and indeed we have concentrated heavily on them. In the southern part of the sea, we have gas reserves and resources which belong jointly to us and our

neighbors. They are working swiftly at present on extraction projects and we have not made any investment or anything. For example, we have joint resources of gas with Qatar. These are the largest gas reserves in the world. Qatar is working at a very rapid pace with foreign companies in order to benefit from these resources, but we have done nothing there. We will give permission to the Petroleum Ministry to sign an accord and to exploit this gas. For example, if this industry were to reinvest 20 percent of its annual income, it would retrieve its investment within 10 to 15 years.

These things are abundant in the south, and if we now wish to wait until the government becomes wealthy and then invests, we will lose much. At present, in the Persian Gulf, when we extract oil the gas burns away, as we do not have the means to utilize it in that area. We do not even have a pipeline to transport it to this side. We can implement a project there with the resources of others so that the gas is not wasted by burning. It will pay for itself and does not demand anything from us. Because it is extremely profitable, others are also ready to make an investment. Therefore, we have given permission for some very important projects to be developed in this manner, although the government cannot invest at this moment in this plan.

We have accorded greater importance to agriculture than was the case in the previous plan. We have added \$1.5 billion to the ceiling of credit for agriculture. In addition, we have also approved the sugar cane project north and south of Ahvaz so that the Ministry of Agriculture can implement it. This is a massive project; it will cost about 400 billion rials and foreign exchange expenses will be approximately \$1.5 billion. Of course, the Majlis gave its permission to implement part of it, and we have approved the entire project.

We have paid greater attention in our new program to technical and professional education. Under this program, the Labor Ministry will have to train workers. One of our weak points is that we do not have enough skilled, specialized, and semi-specialized workers. The Labor Ministry has the capacity to train these but it did not have enough funds. We have increased its funds in rials and in foreign exchange so that it can give more training.

Tourism was not given enough attention in the earlier plan, either as a source of foreign exchange earnings or as a means of acquainting the people of the world with our revolution or expanding the sphere of influence of our Islamic and revolutionary culture. The Ministry of Islamic Guidance has in its hands a program to promote tourism and we have designated a section of our foreign exchange earnings as income from tourism. We have also allocated a budget for the needs of tourism.

With regard to the resources at its disposal, the situation of the judicial machinery is not satisfactory; the courts and their facilities need to expand. We have created a link between the judicial machinery itself and its

expenses. For example, when people wish to lodge complaints and have penal dossiers compiled, no charges are made. Because no one has to spend anything, people use this method readily and file claims taking up the time of the people and courts. Eventually, and in fact on most occasions, it transpires that the case mounted to nothing. Therefore, it has been proposed that we should charge something for every claim, such as 40-50 tomans; this is not a great deal, but as the number of complaints is enormous, it will result in a considerable income. One third of this will be used to expand the work of the judicial machinery. This will resolve problems as well as being a source of income. To a great extent, it will also prevent useless and time-consuming claims so that no one will simply get up and file claims.

In organizations, we have approved certain clauses so that we can maintain the purchasing power of employees as well as upgrading the quality of employees. We have envisaged certain ways of doing this such as training, attracting specialists, maintaining qualified manpower, and other matters which you will find out about in due course.

On the subject of cash and foreign exchange, we are undertaking fundamental measures. By injecting foreign exchange at favorable rates, we can sell the government's foreign exchange; that is, we shall give foreign exchange for seven tomans to all [as heard]. In this regard, according to what has been initiated today, especially in industry, we shall give foreign exchange at this preferential rate so that in this way industry will also be activated and we can attract some of the cash which is in the hands of the people. Suppose I say, just for example—these are not exact figures, it is possible the amount may be much higher—if we sell \$1 billion at the export exchange rate of 50-60 tomans, by injecting this exchange it means that we have collected 60-70 billion tomans from the people's exchange funds. The amount may even be greater, but the money will leave the nongovernment sector, the liquidity will be made available to the government, and the foreign exchange will go to the industrialists as a means of giving an impetus to the production sector. The people are presently buying commodities at free exchange prices, because they cannot obtain them at government-fixed prices, as these commodities are generally sold at the free exchange prices in the market. We have, however, tried not to link the goods needed by the people to such foreign exchange. They will be financed by the government's foreign exchange which will be for a groups of specified goods.

Thus, with the input of the government's foreign exchange, we will be able to collect a large amount of rials. We will be able to reduce our budget deficit and also remove a lot of liquidity from the private sector, as well as boost and expand our production (?ability). We also have another scheme for this purpose, which existed even in the previous plan: There are some factories which the private sector can operate better than the

government. There is no constitutional restraint preventing us from delegating some operations to the private sector, with priority positions for employees and workers and our government employees in the units. This is a joint scheme; that is, it existed earlier and we incorporated it as well. However, we passed an amendment. In the government's previous plan there was a definition of what are to be termed primary industries and important industries. We eliminated this for the moment, as we did not consider it adequate; the subject requires serious discussion. Under the Constitution we cannot hand over primary industries or important industries to the nongovernment sector. We need to define everything and this requires more expert opinions; and therefore our program is at present without such definitions. We shall make the definitions later.

I mentioned that we laid great stress on profit from our gas reserves. As far as possible, on a domestic level we shall strive to make gas the main fuel. If we succeed in doing so in factories, homes, and, especially, automobiles if it is possible for us to do so, we will also purify our environment and economize greatly in the consumption of energy. We will be utilizing an energy resource which is at present limitless for us and which will also be more inexpensive. Moreover, the industry itself will generate employment. If for example, if we can give the people about 250,000 to 300,000 gas connections all over Iran, it would be a most valuable operation. We have attached immense priority to this and we feel that it is possible to implement it.

We have also added a number of important projects, for example, massive dams over the Karun and Karkheh Rivers and at other locations. It may be added that the government should have permission to undertake these projects but should postpone the payment of their costs to the next 5-year plan, because the major part of their foreign exchange expenses will be due in the last years of this plan; that is, we will need the turbines and other things in that period of the plan which will pertain to the second 5-year plan. Thus we have included a large number of such plans.

We have instituted some changes in the urban sewage system based on the serious health and hygiene needs of the people, and we have allotted new funds for this.

Great attention has been paid to reconstructing war-damaged areas and war zones, and we have floated a 5-year credit to the value of 35 billion tomans. This credit was to be utilized in 5 years, but we have permitted it to be used in 2 years. If this can be done, reconstruction will be finished faster. We have also increased the foreign exchange allocation so that the people will be able to return to their areas more quickly. God willing, this return should be completed in 2 years.

As for petrochemicals, they are a very effective source for our industries as well as for reducing our foreign exchange expenses. At present we are paying vast sums to import petrochemical products. The petrochemical

industry is also a very important source of foreign exchange earned through exports. We gave permission to the Petroleum Ministry to finance it from domestic resources as it does not require funding with rials and to sign an agreement with a foreign country so that we might reduce our expenses sooner and thus eliminate numerous problems.

We allotted larger sums for the Armed Forces and law enforcement forces than had been allocated in the previous plan. We increased the allotment by \$1.5 billion in order to strengthen our defense forces. We also increased the rial allocation by 30 billion rials because we are in no position to neglect our defense forces. This was also one of the primary exhortations of his eminence [Khomeini], and we wanted his bequest to be implemented here. Also, it is logical. An interesting point that we can see in these changes is that we have not linked the current trend in the country which safeguards the normal life of the people to foreign resources [manabe'-ye khareji] in any way. The outline of the plan has been preserved so that if in certain cases we are not able to avail ourselves of foreign resources, we can then shelve certain projects for 4 years and implement them later under new conditions. If we manage to implement them now, the timing will be to our great advantage. However, we have not done things so that there will be any hardship for the country if this is not done. It is only that our hands are not tied in selecting these projects.

We have also paid substantial attention to transportation. We have a serious problem in our lives due to transportation difficulties because if our exports or imports were to increase, our transportation system would not be able to cope very well. We should swiftly expand our railroad network for passengers as well as for cargo. The same is true of the airlines, and there is great pressure on our air network since our needs are far greater than our capacity. This (concerns) our government. The airports and terminals have problems and do not have the needed capacity. Road transportation is also beset by the same problems. Buses and other vehicles are also in the same predicament in the cities and on the highways. We have assigned a large sum and have added \$2 billion to the ceiling of their foreign exchange credit so that our domestic industries for manufacturing rolling stock, buses, and trucks in particular can be developed to boost our transportation system.

Communications and links are such that they provide immediate feedback and have an increasingly important value. Their effect on the country's entire economy is enormous, especially if telephones and communication devices are increased. We have added \$1 billion more to this budget so that with more telecommunications facilities for the people, action will be faster. We have immense potential for expanding our capacity.

In this plan, what is more important than all the rest to us are the deprived areas. Serious attention has been paid to these areas and we designated a scale, a defined level. This is so that by the end of the plan period, the

deprived areas should have reached the designated level of progress. The government's programs, which will be formulated and submitted to the Majlis every year, will include effective steps for the deprived areas' progress.

The last point I will mention is that certain clauses have been incorporated regarding the armed forces. They have immense possibilities in the technical and engineering fields. Because of the war, we purchased a large quantity of heavy machinery for the armed forces and engineering corps industry with their very high level of technical prowess. We have permitted them to enter into contracts with government engineering groups; they can do so even now because the Constitution permitted this. However, as this does not produce any income for them, it is of no benefit. Therefore, they have no desire to do so.

We decided they should work as contractors to implement projects and utilize the income to expand their own work; they should work on contracts. Regarding technical facilities and manpower, the level of our conscripts' ability is far greater than is needed in times of peace. Therefore, we anticipated that the government's executive machinery could avail itself of the efficient and skilled conscripts' services for the country's industry and development. Therefore, the armed forces can serve the country's development in times of peace.

In my opinion, these are the important points of the changes which we have made in the plan. Of course, this plan will be brought to the Majlis. One of the best things was that 2 or 3 members of the Plan and Budget Commission were always present at our sessions, are familiar with all our discussions, and know our views. They have coordinated their progress with our work, and I think that in the Majlis we should have hardly any problems in making explanations to the deputies because these people were present during our discussions.

Therefore, as soon as and to whatever extent these changes of ours are approved in the Majlis and as soon as the complete plan is approved, we shall be ready to implement the changes. Today, the discussions have been concluded. Only the compiling, printing, and delivery to the Majlis of the amendments that we made remains. This should only take 2 or 3 days, and they will be ready, and we will give them to the Majlis next week.

The Majlis is of course not impatient about this, because it is familiar with our work and does its work at its sessions. We know the official procedures. You know that the plan itself has been submitted already; we are only going to furnish some figures and some quantitative details.

[Unidentified correspondent] Mr Hashemi-Rafsanjani, thank you for participating in this interview. If you have anything else to say, please do so; otherwise, I and my colleagues thank you.

[Hashemi-Rafsanjani] We have made all these remarks, but I am sure you have many questions. God willing, in

never. This is so that by the end of the plan period, the

but I am sure you have many

the near future I will hold a news conference to answer your questions on these clarifications.

Paper Criticizes Al-Ta'if Delegates' Credentials

*LD1010170789 Tehran IRNA in English 1630 GMT
10 Oct 89*

[Text] Tehran, Oct. 10, IRNA—The stalemate at the al-Ta'if meet between Lebanese MP's and the tripartite Arab committee, said a Persian daily, was due to the fact that both sides were sure that their resolution would fall short of changing the fate of Lebanon.

JOMHURI-YE ESLAMI said that without the "real representatives of the Lebanese people, the issue cannot be resolved."

"The power to change the destiny of Lebanon is in the hands of those whose representatives have nothing to do with the al-Ta'if meet and do not recognize it because of the real nature of both the hosts and guests," it noted.

The meet in the Hijazi resort town is attended by 62 Lebanese Muslim and Christian parliamentarians on one side and Saudi Arabia, Algeria and Morocco who from the Arab committee on the other, but deep divisions have forced the participants to delegate authority to sub-committees.

The topics under discussion are political reforms in Lebanon including the withdrawal of Syrian troops and an equal number of seats in the parliament for both the Muslim majority and the Christian minority.

JOMHURI-YE ESLAMI said "the real representatives of the Lebanese people are those who have actively led the campaign against the enemies from the forefront and not those who having enjoyed the blessings of European or pro-Western Arab states, now suddenly feel as if they are holding the people's mandate on Lebanon.

It noted the absence of the real representatives from the al-Ta'if meet. "The Hizballah, the Islamic Tawhid Movement, the Amal Movement and Druze Muslims are in fact the real forces who resisted against various military, political, economic and cultural hardships imposed by global arrogance on Lebanon."

As for the Saudi regime and its allies, the daily noted that they are hosting "politically bankrupt faces" at al-Ta'if and if the Arab committee is honest it should admit that its measures have not been humanistic at all where the rights of the deprived Lebanese people are concerned.

"Is it not clear that the meet is trying to secure the illegal interests of the al-Quds usurper regime," questioned the paper referring to the fact that Muslims rather than the Christians are the majority group in Lebanon.

It reiterated that the Islamic Republic considered itself duty-bound and even regards it as an honour to support the real representatives of the Lebanese Muslim politically and spiritually.

JOMHURI-YE ESLAMI stressed that Lebanese people know well that their problem would not be solved on the outdated basis of nationalism because "those Arabic-speaking groups who serve their Hebrew masters have shamelessly failed in their tests."

Editorial on Saudi Influence at Al-Ta'if Meeting

*NC0610203089 Tehran TEHRAN TIMES in English
1 Oct 89 p 2*

[Editorial: "Al-Ta'if Meeting on Lebanon To Push Saudi Influence"]

[Text] On Saturday, the first session of Lebanese parliamentarians was held in al-Ta'if, Saudi Arabia. In this meeting 66 of the 73 members of the Lebanese Parliament participated, both Christians and Muslims. This session is being held for analyzing ways of executing political reforms.

The session is the second stage of an Arab League initiative to bring real peace to Lebanon and to execute political reforms in that war-torn country. The issue of Lebanon unfortunately has for a long time left the stage of solely being a domestic issue and has changed into a war of powers and countries.

The choice of al-Ta'if as the meeting center for solving Lebanon's problems itself shows the desire of most countries, such as Saudi Arabia, to gain greater influence in Lebanon. In order to utilize this meeting politically for their benefit the Saudis are trying hard to prevent the failure of this meeting. The Saudis very well know they cannot solve in al-Ta'if the 15-year-old problem of Lebanon. This is why they want a general agreement concerning the future cabinet of Lebanon on the basis of the 1943 Constitution. It is fully clear that such a session can never be successful. It is solely an announcement of the presence of Saudi Arabia in Lebanon.

Yet Husayn al-Husayni, the speaker of the Lebanese parliament, announced that "we will not determine a time limit for this meeting." But surely if the al-Ta'if meeting lengthens, its importance then as a news item will be reduced.

Last week, meanwhile, the summit conference of the Arab Cooperation Council was held in North Yemen. In this meeting an agreement was reached between Iraq and Egypt concerning Lebanon on the basis of which both countries declared they would support Christian militia leader Michel 'Awn. Parallel with this agreement Saudi Arabia and Morocco with similar policies are also after specific goals in Lebanon.

Thus under these conditions Iran and Syria should cooperate closely against the plots and conspiracies of other regional countries in Lebanon.

Since the presence of the Syrians in Lebanon is for the purpose of struggle against the sovereignty and rule of the Maronites and preservation of national and Islamic rights of the people of Lebanon, the results of the al-Ta'if

meeting will be condemned to failure if they do not provide for the rights of the majority of the Lebanese people.

Majlis Official Criticized for Urging Saudi Ties

*PM0610145189 Tehran KEYHAN in Persian
23 Sep 89 p 18*

[Editorial by Majid Reza'iyani: "Let Us Not Be the First To Step Forward and Award Bonus Points"]

[Text] There has been much reaction to the statements made by Raja'i Khorasani, chairman of the Majlis Foreign Relations Committee, in an interview with the TEHRAN TIMES. The remarks dealt with taking the first step toward establishing ties with Riyadh. Matters reached the point where the committee had to make a statement to the effect that the remarks were purely personal in nature and contrary to the ideals of the imam and the leadership. Apart from the negative reaction to the remarks in international circles, we are now confronted by his statement justifying his previous position in another Majlis speech on 19 September, reemphasizing his previous position. He said: We have some serious difficulties with Saudi Arabia. There are legal and political problems after the events at the hajj, the issue of Iran's quota in sending pilgrims, and also the issue of the hajj itself, demonstrations, and so forth on which we much reach an agreement with Saudi Arabia. In general, can we solve these issues by severing relations?

In his previous interview with the TEHRAN TIMES he had said that it would be brave and "manly" to take the first step in establishing ties with Riyadh. He said: Negotiating and establishing ties with Saudi Arabia could assume a variety of forms, but we must act in a manly way and take the first step. The Majlis committee can come act as a mediator.

It is regrettable that the chairman of the Majlis Foreign Relations Committee, who has had experience at the highest level of diplomacy, the United Nations, has not only forgotten that keeping one's principles is part of having a powerful diplomacy but also does not know what comes first and last in the list of priorities when dealing with solving difficulties. Would it not have been better to avoid making excuses for those totally shameful and painful remarks? Did he not think about what kind of reaction the aware people would have and what their judgment of us would be? Does not the idea of expanding ties with the GCC [Gulf Cooperation Council] in a general way—without distinguishing the crimes of Al Sa'ud—offer an excuse for establishing ties with Saudi Arabia, with us taking the first step? There is no doubt that it is necessary to expand reasonable relations with the Persian Gulf countries, except for Saudi Arabia, and this is something that is being done. Choosing Dr Hadi Najaf-Abadi as ambassador to the UAE [United Arab Emirates] testifies to the importance that Iran attaches to these relations, according to our respected president.

Yet there are those like Mr Raja'i Khorasani who speak of a general process of friendship in the Persian Gulf without separating Saudi Arabia, easily forgetting the murder of 400 pilgrims. Such persons will not achieve the smallest result.

Everyone knows about the purpose of the Carter Doctrine in creating the GCC and the Rapid Deployment Force. Will the United States easily forget the strategic importance of this region and allow a kind of security that is not to its liking to take shape in the region? A security in which Iran would have a major role? There is no doubt that none of the countries in this area, except for Saudi Arabia, benefits from the presence of foreign naval forces. The moderate position taken by some of them, including the UAE, throughout the crisis speaks of their real desire to avoid tension. Therefore, expanding ties with those countries which want a reasonable stability in the region is completely different from having ties with Saudi Arabia, which is the instigator of tension and plots.

It is very likely that those remarks will weaken our position with regard to current efforts to improve ties with Kuwait and the UAE. If we are to see such irresponsible statements coming from parliamentarians involved with foreign policy, without a doubt it can be predicted that we will face serious problems in our relations with Benin and Burkina Faso in the future as well! It is as if that person regarded diplomacy as "giving points to the other side," rather than winning bonus points for ourselves. It is sad that, with all the complexities of diplomacy today, we have such a naive way of dealing with them.

Did the imam's message to Gorbachev and his decree on the heretic Salman Rushdie, which were both made from a position of strength, not have fruitful results for us? Should these two incidents not become role models for our future diplomatic dealings? What results will weak and sickening statements have, then, other than making us weaker in the complex world of diplomacy?

We have not forgotten how the imam put the Saudis in a weak position with his message to the pilgrims. Did the leadership of the Islamic Republic, on the anniversary of the martyrdom of those loved ones, not go to their grave to give the same cry!? Really, Mr Raja'i Khorasani!

Let the Saudis find an answer. Let them tell us why they are preventing thousands of Iranians from performing the hajj. Let them thereby show the world how incompetent they are in taking care of the two holy mosques. Do not let this powerful propaganda weapon, and our document of innocence, backed by 400 martyrs, be destroyed in this way. Do not let us become the laughing stock of the revolution's sundry enemies because of hurried and weak statements. We already have enough "positive" achievements from the issue! Please study the ways of peacefully settling problems, because the establishment of ties comes after, and not before the resolution of problems.

Magazine Notes Saudi 'Suppression' of Freedom

LD0610140889 Tehran IRNA in English 1300 GMT
6 Oct 89

[Text] Athens, Oct. 6, IRNA—An Arab magazine, published in Greece, has exposed the Saudi monarchy's gross violation of human rights and suppression of basic freedoms of its citizens.

The political bimonthly AL-NASHRAH, which deals with opposition affairs and liberation movements in the Arab world, has published parts of a report on the human rights situation in Saudi Arabia in 1988, prepared by the Arab human rights organisation, in its recent issue.

The Cairo-based non-governmental organisation was formed in December 1983 by about a hundred Arab intellectuals, thinkers and politicians to defend human rights in Arab countries.

The report points out that the Saudi Kingdom was being ruled without any constitution which would define the laws, duties and responsibilities of the government and the citizens.

The non-existence of a constitution has led to an absence of guarantees of basic human rights of Saudi citizens such as freedom of expression, formation of organisations, right to peaceful gatherings etc.

The press in Saudi Arabia is controlled by the Interior Ministry which also supervises all bookshops, libraries, photography and cassette shops and post offices in the country, the report said.

A total of 70 persons, including clerics, engineers and workers in Aramco, and students were arrested last year in the oil rich eastern regions bordering the Persian Gulf.

The report said the Saudi Interior Ministry issued death sentences against four Saudi citizens in September 1988 on trumped up charges of collaboration with the Islamic Republic of Iran.

One of the four, Muhammad al-Qurus, was not executed, but had died under torture, it added.

Political prisoners in Saudi Arabia were subjected to inhuman tortures like burning of sensitive parts of the body, beating with rods, solitary confinement etc.

A number of citizens were arrested without any charges last year. The Arab organisation had sent a letter to the Interior Minister asking for a fair trial of the arrested and the immediate release of those not found guilty of any crimes.

Political prisoners are denied any access to lawyers or advisers to defend themselves. Trials are held under closed doors. Organisations like "The Islamic Revolution of the Arab Peninsula", "Hizballah al-Hejaz," the Saudi Communist Party, the Socialist Labour Party and

the Youth Union of Saudi Arabia are all banned and joining them is a crime punishable by imprisonment, the report said.

It said that two groups, the Shiites and women, were particularly discrimination in Saudi Arabia.

Shiite students were not being accepted in some faculties of universities and only a small number in other faculties. In some ministries and organisations Shiites were not employed.

Shiites, in contrast to the minority status of the ruling Wahhabis account for over 30 percent of the total population and though no exact figures are available, they are believed to be the largest single group in Saudi Arabia.

The biggest number of those arrested last year were Shiites living in the eastern regions of Saudi Arabia, the report said.

In violation of Islamic laws, women in Saudi Arabia are denied their personal rights, and the right to work and form an organization. A woman is not permitted to work except in teaching and nursing jobs. She cannot marry any other national except a Saudi Arabian, the report pointed out.

Around 1,300 people last year were prevented from travelling abroad. Some were arrested and others had to submit their passports to the authorities.

In April 1988, authorities prohibited the sale of a cassette of a speech of the famous Egyptian scholar Shaykh Yusuf al-Qardawi who had given a lecture at the Ibn Sa'ud University in al-Madinah.

The shaykh had condemned sectarian tendencies, fanaticism and called on the ulema not to create differences among the madhahib (Islamic Schools of thought).

Books and cassettes of a number of other leading 'ulema are also banned in Saudi Arabia, the report said.

Workers from Arab countries and other developing states in Saudi Arabia were being discriminated and preference was given to those from the U.S. and western countries, the report concluded.

AL-NASHRAH is a pro-Palestinian magazine. Its first publisher Michael al-Nimri, a Jordanian communist, was gunned down in Athens four years ago.

Pakistan's Nasir Sheikh Arrives in Tehran 8 Oct

LD0810053489 Tehran IRNA in English 0530 GMT
8 Oct 89

[Text] Tehran, Oct. 8, IRNA—Special advisor of the Pakistani prime minister, Dr Nasir A. Sheikh arrived here Sunday morning and was greeted at the airport by Presidential Advisor 'Ali Reza Mo'ayeri. In an interview upon arrival Dr Sheikh called for expansion of Tehran-Islamabad ties.

The Pakistani official is to discuss with Iranian officials technical and scientific cooperation between the two countries and the situation of Pakistani physicians here.

Meets With Interior Minister

LD0910120989 *Tehran Domestic Service in Persian*
1030 GMT 9 Oct 89

[Text] The adviser to the Pakistani prime minister, during a meeting with Interior Minister Nuri this morning, referred to problems and issues common to the two friendly, neighboring countries of Iran and Pakistan and expressed the hope that with the coming into power of the new government in Pakistan, and with Iran's cooperation, the problem of the two countries will be solved.

Referring to the struggles of the Muslim people of Iran against various conspiracies hatched by world arrogance about the Afghan refugees in the two countries, Mr Nuri said: The two countries should make similar decisions on that issue and that is separate from the issue of government in Afghanistan.

Regarding the fight against narcotics, the extradition of the guilty parties, and current difficulties, he said: Issues to be discussed by the two countries include: the serious fight against narcotics, the extradition of the guilty parties, and the establishment of complete stability and security in the common border region. That security would be in the interests of both countries. At the end of the meeting, the adviser to the Pakistani premier invited Mr Nuri to travel to Pakistan.

Meets With Velayati

LD0910222789 *Tehran Television Service in Persian*
1600 GMT 9 Oct 89

[Excerpt] [Passage omitted] During a meeting today between Nasir Ahmad Sheikh, personal deputy of Pakistan's prime minister, and Foreign Minister Velayati, the two sides stressed further expansion of the two countries' ties and cooperation.

Meets With Hashemi-Rafsanjani

LD1010120789 *Tehran Domestic Service in Persian*
1030 GMT 10 Oct 89

[Text] Nasir Ahmad Sheikh, the personal envoy of the prime minister of Pakistan, met today with President Hashemi-Rafsanjani. In this meeting which was also attended by the vice president in charge of international affairs, Nasir Ahmad Sheikh conveyed the warm greetings of Pakistan's president and prime minister, and submitted a written message from Benazir Bhutto to the president. He also informed the president that Pakistan is ready for greater cooperation with the Islamic Republic of Iran, especially during its reconstruction period.

President Hashemi-Rafsanjani returned the warm and friendly greetings of Pakistan's president and prime minister. He emphasized the scope for greater cooperation for the benefit of both countries.

Zambian Prime Minister Arrives in Tehran

NC0610095489 *Tehran Domestic Service in Persian*
0430 GMT 6 Oct 89

[Text] Malimba Masheke, prime minister of the African country of Zambia, arrived in Tehran this morning at the head of a high-level delegation for an official 7-day visit. Mr Habibi, first presidential deputy, welcomed him.

According to the Central News Unit, the Zambian prime minister is accompanied by the ministers of mines, commerce, and industry and the acting Zambian defense minister. Mr Habibi spoke to correspondents and said: The friendly ties between the two countries made it necessary to hold bilateral talks at close quarters. These may be a precursor to the expansion of ties and technical and economic cooperation between the two countries. Mr Habibi added: Zambia is one of the frontline states and is playing a fundamental role in the campaign against apartheid.

Speaking to our correspondent, the Zambian prime minister said he was happy to be visiting Iran. He stated: We have come to Iran to consolidate our longstanding ties with it. We commend the Islamic Republic of Iran for its rightful stance, because it is a symbol of independence and has not deviated from its path toward the attainment of independence.

He added: We have identical views in various organizations, including the Nonaligned Movement. This is the first time we have come to Iran with a high-level delegation. We hope that soon we will be able to play host to a similar delegation from Iran in our own country.

During his stay in Iran, the prime minister of Zambia and the delegation accompanying him will visit Behesht-e Zahra, where they will lay a wreath at the pure mausoleum of Imam Khomeyni—may his soul be sanctified—and pay their respects to the founder of the Islamic Republic. The members of the delegation will also hold official talks and meetings with our president.

Discusses Ties With Habibi

LD0710154189 *Tehran IRNA in English* 1405 GMT
7 Oct 89

[Text] Tehran, Oct. 7, IRNA—Visiting Zambian Prime Minister Malimba Masheke discussed ways of strengthening ties and economic cooperation between the two countries during his first round of talks with First Vice President Hasan Habibi here Saturday.

Masheke said at the meeting that both Iran and Zambia shared common stands against colonialism, apartheid and global arrogance which he said were evident in international organizations and circles.

Briefing Habibi on the situation in South Africa, the Zambian premier blamed the Pretoria regime for all misfortunes plaguing people in that region.

Habibi said in reply "The Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran attaches great importance to its ties with the Third World especially with African states and has given top priority to its policy of protecting the oppressed."

Referring to Iran's severance of ties with the South African apartheid regime immediately after the victory of the Islamic revolution in 1979, Habibi said "Based on our ideology, we have been, and will always be opposed to racial segregation."

On the Middle East issue, the first vice president emphasized that the peoples of Afghanistan, Lebanon and Palestine should be given an opportunity to elect their favorite system of government without interferences of Zionist and colonial powers.

On Resolution 598, Habibi cited the full implementation of the resolution and withdrawal of Iraq troops to internationally recognized borders as specified by the 1975 accord as conditions for peace and tranquility in the region and settlement of disputes between the two countries.

"If the 1975 accord is brought under question what guarantees are there that other international agreements would not be so?" He questioned.

The Zambian prime minister arrived here Friday at the head of a high ranking delegation.

Agro-Industrial Cooperation Discussed

LD0710213989 Tehran IRNA in English 1725 GMT
7 Oct 89

[Text] Tehran, Oct. 7, IRNA—Visiting Zambian Minister of Trade and Industry D.S. Musuka met Minister of Commerce 'Abd al-Hoseyn Vahaji this afternoon. Discussed at the meeting were commercial issues of mutual concern as well as cooperation in the agro-industrial field.

Musuka is accompanying Zambian prime minister Malimba Masheke who arrived here yesterday at the head of a ranking delegation.

In related news, Zambian Minister of Mines B.N. Fumbelo who also forms part of the Zambian premier's entourage, conferred with Minister of Mines and Metals Mohammad Hoseyn Mahlouji today.

Cooperation in the mining sector was the topic of discussion between the two ministers.

Banquet Speeches Noted

LD0710225989 Tehran IRNA in English 2040 GMT
7 Oct 89

[Text] Tehran, Oct. 7, IRNA—First Vice-President Dr. Hasan Habibi Saturday reiterated the Islamic Republic of Iran's support for all the deprived and oppressed

nations of the world, particularly for "the rightful struggles of the Palestinian and South African peoples against Zionism and racism."

Speaking at a banquet given in honor of the visiting Zambian prime minister Gen. Malimba Masheke, Habibi regretted that today military and economic levers were used more than the past, to pressure and allure nations. "For instance, we see this tactic employed in the ruthless suppression of the Palestinians by the Zionists, and in the shameless practice of racism in South Africa," Habibi told the Zambian guest.

Accusing the United States and its agents of introducing the system of racial segregation to the world, the vice-president reiterated Iran's support for the just struggle of the South African blacks in the frontline countries, against the Pretoria regime.

"In order for the Namibian people to achieve their full legitimate rights it is essential for the progressive forces in the region, as well as for the international community and revolutionary countries, to supervise the Namibian elections with utmost sensitivity," Habibi urged.

Elsewhere in his remarks, the vice-president pointed to the continued occupation of over 2,000 sq. kms of Iranian territory by the Iraqi army, and said "all the peace-lovers and wise people in the world know that the passage of time and delayed Iraqi troop withdrawal to the internationally-recognized borders on the basis of the 1975 agreement, would not be in the interest of regional and world peace and security."

On mutual ties with Zambia, Habibi stressed on exchange of visits by high-ranking officials of the two countries and announced Tehran's readiness to promote relations with Lusaka. He said the Islamic Republic was also prepared to transfer its experiences in the technical, industrial and agricultural fields to Zambia.

"We in Zambia consider Iran as partner in the total liberation of southern Africa," said Zambian premier, adding that "your assistance to the liberation movements in southern Africa has always aroused our support and gratitude especially after the revolution."

Masheke added that the situation in South Africa called for serious and great political awareness on the part of all peace loving nations the world over. "Stability, peace and racial harmony in South Africa cannot be founded on a system built on repression such as apartheid. Therefore, apartheid must be completely eradicated in South Africa," he noted.

Referring to the abolition of "petty racism" in buses and swimming pools by the South African regime, the Zambian premier described these pronouncements as "cosmetic changes" which he said should not mislead or fool the international community. "Apartheid cannot be reformed—it must be annihilated," he stressed.

Condemning attempts by the South African regime to manipulate the Namibian elections, Masheke said his

country welcomed the independence process now underway in Namibia. "We call upon the international community to follow up closely the developments in Namibia to ensure that elections are free and fair."

On the Palestinian question, Masheke stated that a just and peaceful solution to the Middle East problem could only be found through the withdrawal of Israeli forces from all occupied Arab territories. "We also believe that the right of the Palestinian people to self-determination and the establishment of a Palestinian state on a land they call their own must be recognised," he said.

He also welcomed the termination of Iraq-Iran hostilities calling it "a positive step in the right direction" but pointed to the "no-war-no-peace" situation as a "source of our constant concern."

"We, therefore, call upon all parties concerned to heed our appeal and expedite the implementation of the United Nations Security Council Resolution 598 in order to bring about a durable peace for two historical states and for the region as well," Masheke said.

On Lebanon, he said the Lebanese people had suffered enough and "it is time they were left alone to find an acceptable solution to their problems." He also welcomed the tripartite Arab League committee's report to find a solution to the Lebanese crisis. The Zambian premier arrived here at the head of a high-powered delegation Friday for a six-day official visit.

Decries Western Portrayal of Iran

LD0810163389 Tehran IRNA in English 1504 GMT
8 Oct 89

[Text] Tehran, Oct. 8, IRNA—Visiting Zambian Prime Minister Malimba Masheke in a meeting with Majlis Speaker Hojjat ol-Eslam Mehdi Karrubi Sunday called for expansion of parliamentary ties between the two countries.

Masheke also castigated the Western mass media for its attempts to misportray the Islamic Republic. "While in Iran, one soon realizes that it is quite different from what the Western media claims," he added.

Karrubi in reply, referred to the two countries' common struggle against foreign power domination and said the Islamic Revolution highly esteems the oppressed people of Africa.

The Zambian premier arrived here Friday at the head of a high ranking delegation.

In related news, Zambian minister of trade and industry D.S. Musuka who is part of the delegation today met with Industries Minister Mohammad Reza Ne'matzadeh. During the meeting, the two discussed areas of industrial cooperation between the Islamic Republic and Zambia.

Friday Prayers Leader of Istanbul Mosque Arrested

LD0710111689 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
1030 GMT 7 Oct 89

[Text] Hojjat ol-Eslam Saberi-Hamadani, the prayer leader of the Iranian mosque in Istanbul, was arrested yesterday by the Turkish security police after he led the Friday prayers.

According to IRNA, the Turkish security police stressed that the arrest of Hojjat ol-Eslam Saberi-Hamadani was carried out on orders of the Turkish Interior Ministry. No reason was given for his arrest. The security forces added that Saberi-Hamadani would be expelled from the country.

According to IRNA, because of his old age and because he is suffering from kidney problems, Iranian diplomatic officials, while condemning the action, asked for the release or the deportation of Hojjat ol-Eslam Saberi, Istanbul's prayer leader, via airplane. This request, however, was not accepted by the Turkish security police.

The arrest of Hojjat ol-Eslam Saberi-Hamadani took place while he was making a speech at the ceremonies for the commemoration of 16 Kuwaiti martyrs and following his Friday prayer sermons at the Iranian mosque in Istanbul.

Daily Protests Deportation

LD0910194989 Tehran IRNA in English 1815 GMT
9 Oct 89

[Text] Tehran, Oct. 9, IRNA—The Persian daily KAYHAN Monday objected against Turkey's deportation of Iranian national Hoj. Saberi-Hamadani the prayer leader of an Istanbul mosque, and called Ankara's act "in harmony with the behavior of the Saudis."

It said Turkey has yet to announce the reason why it arrested the hojjat ol-eslam following a ceremony in memory of 16 Kuwaiti hajj pilgrims who were decapitated by the Saudi Government on alleged charges of bombing.

KAYHAN termed the act of the Turkish government "anti-Islamic" saying it has provoked a "wave of wrath and hatred among Turkish Muslims, because, they cannot tolerate violations against the most primary principles of democracy."

The Friday prayer leader was arrested on charges of defending the 16 Kuwaiti hajj martyrs, it said adding, "six other Iranian prayer-goers at the Istanbul mosque were imprisoned on the charges of merely praying in a mosque which belongs to all Muslims. There is no news yet on the fate of these detainees.

Holding Ankara responsible for the unwarranted behaviour of the Turkish Interior Ministry and security police towards the Iranian religious leader, it asked the Turkish Government to offer an explanation in this regard.

It is time the Turkish Government took into account the religious feelings of Turkish Muslims, the paper concluded.

Armed Clashes in Iraqi Town of Tikrit Noted

NC0710183589 *Tehran International Service in Arabic*
1730 GMT 7 Oct 89

[Text] The township of Tikrit, the birthplace of Saddam, the leader of the ruling regime in Iraq, has been the scene of heavy armed clashes between tribes which support 'Adnan Khayrallah, the murdered Iraqi defense minister, and elements of Saddam's security forces.

According to our correspondent in Beirut, witnesses who recently arrived in Beirut from Iraq have said that the security forces of the ruling regime in Iraq are besieging Tikrit and blocking all roads leading to the town. The Iraqi forces opened fire on the populace, leaving scores of people dead and hundreds of others wounded, including the father of 'Adnan Khayrallah.

The correspondent further noted that internal disputes are currently afflicting most of the Iraqi towns and that noncommissioned officers and officers who support 'Adnan Khayrallah have rebelled.

Military Exercises Planned in Persian Gulf

LD1010175589 *Tehran Domestic Service in Persian*
1630 GMT 10 Oct 89

[Text] The Navy of the Islamic Republic of Iran announced the following: The special sea and air maneuvers "Peykan 1" will be held toward the end of the month of Mehr [21 September-21 October] in the northern waters of the Persian Gulf. Seaborne offensive units, helicopters, marines, and the brave frogmen of the Islamic Republic of Iran's Armed forces will participate in these maneuvers. Furthermore, fighter bombers and reconnaissance planes of the Navy and Air Force will participate, thereby displaying their power and strength to defend the waters of the Islamic homeland, as well as to safeguard the security of the Persian Gulf.

President's Guidance on Customs Implemented

LD0610164489 *Tehran Domestic Service in Persian*
1030 GMT 6 Oct 89

[Excerpt] Following the guidance issued by the president about improving the welfare of passengers at the country's customs points, a new plan for speeding up customs procedures at domestic and external terminals has been implemented.

Our correspondent has conducted an interview with the director-general of Iranian customs on this issue, to which we draw your attention:

[Begin recording] [Unidentified correspondent] Mr Mohammad Khan, as the director-general of customs, please tell us about the guidance issued by the president

to improve the welfare of people at customs points, in particular at airports. What new measures have you taken for the welfare of the people?

[Khan] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. We have taken some measures to improve the welfare of airport passengers which have been approved by the honorable president and issued to all international passenger airports in the country. These were implemented beginning last Saturday and are continuing.

According to the decree by the honorable president, we have studied and implemented a plan called the Green and Red Light Plan. The method of using the green and red channels is that passengers with goods not exceeding 5,000 tomans in value can pass through the green channels and all persons with goods valued at more than 5,000 tomans should be referred to the customs officials and pay duty according to the rules of imports and exports. [passage omitted]

Paper Lauds Guardians for Rejecting Majlis Bill

LD0910114189 *Tehran IRNA in English* 1100 GMT
9 Oct 89

[Text] Tehran, Oct. 9, IRNA—A Persian daily Monday recommended the Majlis to discuss and review proposals and bills more carefully and in greater detail.

JOMHURI-YE ESLAMI criticized Majlis approval of September 27 authorizing special courts to investigate charges brought against Majlis deputies both before and after being elected. According to the approval, summoning or arrest of deputies must be carried out only through the Majlis.

However, the Guardians Council in the last week session announced that the bill was contrary to the Constitution and divine laws, on the grounds that it granted special privileges to the Majlis deputies.

The paper lauded the Council for having stood resolutely against the move which it said was incompatible with Islam and the Constitution and was setting a trend which was not in harmony with the revolution and the Islamic society.

Under the rule of the deposed shah, people were irritated and annoyed with judicial immunity of the ruling clique, said the daily asking why should the Majlis foster such privileges under the present conditions.

It added that the Islamic Republic of Iran wanted to set a pattern of humanity and justice, in a world filled with sufferings and injustice. Therefore, the Majlis must be highly careful with the decisions it makes, it said warning it against any deviation from the true path of Islam.

Investigating any charges against Majlis deputies at special courts is an erroneous measure, it added.

The paper said that popularity of the Islamic revolution among the freedom-seeking Muslims in Egypt, Palestine,

Lebanon, Jordan and all Islamic countries, and spread of the Islamic revolution is due to the cherished Islamic principles and values that the Islamic Iran upholds.

It concluded by describing the bill a "bitter but awakening experience for all, especially the Majlis deputies who should handle the bills more carefully and prevent it from happening again."

Editorial Takes Issue With Larijani on U.S. Ties

PM0610134789 Tehran KEYHAN in Persian
13 Sep 89 p 18

[Editorial by "M.R."]

[Excerpts] These days we have been witnessing various analyses by internal circles in the newspapers of Iran's blind spots in its foreign policy and ways to unravel these knots. The subject of the possible establishment of ties between Iran and the United States and Iran and Saudi Arabia are among these ideas. Mr Larijani has spoken his own mind on the subject of establishing Iranian-U.S. ties, thereby leaving the door wide open for discussions on this issue. [passage omitted]

Diplomatic relations in the world today are divided into four categories: cooperation, competition, struggle, and control.

If between any two countries there is complete disunity, conflicting ideology, culture, politics, and economics, and if the relations between these two nations sink to the lowest state, can one expect any type of relationship to develop without changes in the attitudes and difficulties on one side of the fence? Especially if previous ties between the two nations, as in the case of the United States and Iran, involved control and bullying?

For example, was it not these same differences that caused the United States to commit the crime of killing 300 innocent passengers on board the Iranian Airbus? Was not this same difference in ideology not the basis of the U.S. Congress' support for the terrorist actions of the hypocrites [Mojahedin-e Khalq Organization] against the integrity of the Islamic regime, amid growing talk of U.S. goodwill toward Iran?

Mr Larijani said in his lengthy explanation printed in KEYHAN on 11 September 1989 that if the establishment of ties with the United States brought Iran more benefits, then there could be "serious investments in this regard." Given the explanations mentioned above, this is not logical. To say that if such relations were in Iran's interests, then they should be considered a religious duty can only be imagined in a situation where the United States gave up all its typical capitalist-society values and turned overnight from being a devil into an angel.

For the same reason we cannot say that even if relations are impossible now, they may be possible one day. If we came to think that the Americans did not see it as their right to have control over us, then we might possibly talk about such imaginary assumptions.

In general, it must be made clear what is meant by "our interest" in establishing relations with the United States, or any other country for that matter. Mr Larijani does not make this one point very clear. It should be made clear that "interests" we are talking about when we discuss diplomatic relations. Larijani believes that we should always keep in mind Iran's position as a "source" in the Islamic world, our defense capabilities, and our growth. If any given relationship with a country benefits these three principles, then we should consider those relations useful. The question is this: If the United States has the capability to fulfill some of these points, which it does, then what are the problems in establishing ties? It is obvious that the answer to this question should be made clear. First of all, the United States has not given up its bullying attitudes, and will never do so. Second, we are still faithful to our principles. The imam's words still echo in our ears, although we have lost him. [passage omitted]

Not without reason is the United States unwilling to accept the fact that Iran has stuck by its principles, especially since the death of the imam. In addition, the imam's wise letter to Gorbachev and the subsequent expansion of ties with the USSR caused more worry for Washington. Keeping that in mind, what is certain is that our relations with the USSR may go through some changes at crucial points because of U.S. pressures on the Kremlin. However, the possibility of keeping a powerful position at the same time as having popular support in the Islamic world is linked directly to unified conditions and policies inside the country. [passage omitted]

The West screams and shouts about the abuse of human rights in this country. How then does it justify its widespread cooperation with the Iraqis in the production of chemical weapons, or the burning of Kurosh Fuladi's body after he was falsely accused? How much do they value the keeping of principles? Especially when a British spy and prisoner, Roger Cooper, is praised by the TEHRAN TIMES, when he has the time to sit down and translate the imam's poem?

This is why at such times we should not have to listen to negative statements coming from within, from those involved with our foreign policy. Statements made in haste and from a position of weakness will have only negative effects, coming from the other side. They will encourage the other side to take positions against us. The West will only change its policies toward us when it sees that we are lessening our steadfastness toward our principles. [passage omitted]

At the present time, keeping all this in mind, one lesson we must learn from the West's treatment of us is how to shape our future diplomacy. If our analysis in foreign policy, especially on strategic issues, is done without keeping our principles in mind, and if those principles give way to a "diplomacy of profit," it will deliver a huge and irreparable blow to our power and to the sources from which we get that power. Without that source it will be impossible to face the world of powermongers today. [passage omitted]

Editorial Assesses Private Sector's Role

NC0610203589 Tehran TEHRAN TIMES in English
3 Oct 89 p 2

[Editorial: "Private Sector Role Good But Caution Needed"]

[Text] Speculation is rife that some of the government-owned factories such as these under the Mostaz'afin Foundation (Foundation for the Oppressed) are to be sold to the private sector. It has been also suggested that the car industry should be sold to this sector.

It is a fact that over the past decade a large number of industries that have come directly under the government has not been able to produce significantly tangible results for various reasons which are not all attributable to negligence. However, the economic wheels have to keep turning smoothly, prices and inflation kept in control and social justice implemented as best as possible and it may be worth turning things over to the private sector as an experiment. This no doubt will be done under proper government supervision in order to override malpractices of any kind, corruption and greed that the profit-motive sometimes sadly lends itself to.

Up to now the private sector has lacked the incentives which might have encouraged it to try to make greater headway in the sphere of investments to give greater momentum to the economy, create jobs, bring prices down and generally give an efficient turn to industrial and economic management. A large field of untapped talent can be taken advantage of to give direction to economic growth in the country with private sector participation.

While it would be wrong to heap blame on the government for everything that is wrong with the economy and not take into consideration the difficult times that the nation has been through, it is true that without the profit motivation the public sector often lapses into lethargy and gets snarled up in needless bureaucracy. On the budgetary side one may also point to the excessive emphasis that a public sector oriented economy tends to place on spending on services without a commensurate increase in income.

Again, however, well-intentioned a government is, it is in the nature of the system that shifts of emphasis, priorities in managerial structures and little day-to-day efforts are often prone to be criticised even though the motives may be the best when these are put into effect. The private sector if it can be kept in line to see that profits alone and not higher considerations come into play, can still be better as far as efficiency goes.

As for the Mostaz'afin Foundation, this is a gigantic governmental outfit which controls a large number of vital industries and efficiently run this can be a great source of benefit to the nation. What they have done so far has been commendable, but more is needed for the future and with an urgent need for sustained development in the economy the private sector can usefully give this

organization a new direction with advantage to the government and the nation as a whole. This applies to other industries affiliated to the Iranian National Industries (INI) and the Industries Development and Renovation Organization (IDRO) which come under the Ministry of Industries and Heavy Industries.

Not to be self-critical and not to review the benefits, and shortcomings as well, of the past will be a mistake. But too much haste has to be avoided and the private sector has to be watched at every step to see that it can better do what the government has so far done with a dedication which no one can condemn offhand.

10 Drug Smugglers Hanged in Tehran 7 Oct

LD0710062189 Tehran IRNA in English 0613 GMT
7 Oct 89

[Text] Tehran, Oct. 7. IRNA- 10 more drug smugglers and dealers including a woman, operating at international level, were hanged in Tehran's Qasr prison Saturday morning. The 10 were involved in repeated cases of smuggling, distribution and sale of as much as 1,160 kg of opium, eight kg of heroin and other corrupt activities. They were tried by Tehran's Islamic Revolutionary Court in Charge of Anti-narcotic Campaign.

31 Hanged for Narcotics Offenses

LD0710115989 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
1030 GMT 7 Oct 89

[Excerpt] On the orders of the Islamic revolution courts in charge of fighting against narcotics in Tehran, Shiraz, Qom, Zahedan, Kerman, Karaj, Qazvin, Takestan, Gonbad, and Sari, 31 [number as heard] more international narcotics smugglers were hanged this morning. [passage omitted]

Drugs Seized in Khorasan Province

LD0710222589 Tehran Television Service in Persian
1600 GMT 7 Oct 89

[Text] In the course of three armed clashes between the guards of the Islamic Revolution Committee of Khorasan Province and an international narcotics ring, which occurred last week in the Torbat-e Jam border region, 420 kg of opium were discovered and seized.

Tehran Radio Commentary Views Antidrug Campaign

NC1010094289 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
0430 GMT 9 Oct 89

[Untitled Central News Unit Research Group commentary]

[Excerpts] A regional seminar for a campaign against narcotics has been convened with the participation of 36 countries, including the Islamic Republic of Iran. It began last Thursday, and debates and reviews continue on ways and means of combating drugs. [passage omitted]

Following its new campaign to uproot drugs from Iran, the antidrug headquarters has, in addition to its activities on the domestic level, directed its attention to foreign and international activities as well. Iran, which lies on the international drug route, has had much experience in the drug problem in recent years. In view of the fact that there is a great need for the adoption of a coordinated regional policy in the fight against drugs, Iran's participation will prove most effective in conferences and international gatherings on technical and information aspects and new plans. As well as presenting its own plans and proposals, Iran will be able to benefit from other countries' experiences. [passage omitted]

The implementation of the law on the execution of professional drug smugglers, the launching of a program to identify and rehabilitate addicts, and the continuation of the campaign against large gangs and caravans for the transportation of narcotics are among the measures which have been welcomed by the Iranian public, who have extended their support and assistance as well.

What inspires hope today at the antidrug headquarters are the gains made by the ceaseless activity that the Komiteh members and Gendarmerie officials have been carrying out on the one hand, and the needs of the reconstruction era for the cultural purging and cleansing of society on the other. In these conditions, therefore, it is imperative that the antidrug headquarters should persevere in its efforts to contend with the problem and remain steadfast in its activities in this regard. Thus its past and present efforts and achievements continue to be consistently constructive and a source of optimism. At the same time, during this fateful period the cleansing of society will take place.

Pakistan

Nusrat Bhutto on Afghan Mujahidin-USSR Talks

BK1010070189 Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu
0600 GMT 10 Oct 89

[Text] Begum Nusrat Bhutto, the senior federal minister and leader of the Pakistani delegation at the UN General Assembly, has said that the Soviet Union has agreed to hold talks with Afghan mujahidin on a future interim government. ASSOCIATED PRESS OF PAKISTAN reports that in a BBC interview, she said that the agreement was reached between Foreign Minister Sahabzada Yaqub Khan and Soviet Foreign Minister Shevardnadze at a meeting on the 1st of (this) month.

When asked whether the talks between the Soviet Union and the Afghan mujahidin will be on the formation of a future interim government, Begum Nusrat Bhutto replied in the affirmative. She added that it would be better if the USSR and mujahidin hold direct negotiations.

President Says Moscow Must Review Afghan Policy

BK0910090689 Islamabad Overseas Service in English
0800 GMT 9 Oct 89

[Text] The president, Mr Ghulam Ishaq Khan, has said Pakistan will continue to seek an early and just political settlement of the Afghanistan problem acceptable to Afghan people, ensuring the restoration of peace in that country and return of millions of uprooted Afghan refugees to their homeland. Inaugurating the 48th Frontier Corps Week in Peshawar this morning, he said that Pakistan right from the very beginning has taken a principled stand on the Afghanistan issue.

The president said that if the Soviet Union wanted a political solution of the issue, it must review its present policy which is in defiance of the wishes of the Afghan people. He said that the only way to the just, peaceful, and comprehensive settlement of the Afghan problem lies in a broad-based government acceptable to all the segments of Afghan society. He commended the role of Frontier Corps in safeguarding the country's internal and external security. The president announced 500,000 rupees for the welfare of the serving and retired personnel of the Frontier Corps.

Bhutto Assistant Leaves for 4-day Visit to Iran

BK0810040889 Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu
0200 GMT 8 Oct 89

[Text] The special assistant to the prime minister on overseas affairs, Dr Nasir Shaikh, left Karachi for Tehran last night on a 4-day visit to Iran. Talking to Radio Pakistan's representative at the airport before departure, he said he is carrying a goodwill message from Prime Minister Ms Benazir Bhutto for Iranian President Mr Hashemi-Rafsanjani. He added that his talks with Iranian leaders will cover matters of mutual interest. The supply of skilled and unskilled Pakistani labor for Iran will also be discussed. He will also use the opportunity to learn about the problems facing Pakistanis in Iran and hold talks with the Iranian Government to solve them.

Government To Discuss Wular Barrage With India

BK1110083789 Islamabad Overseas Service in English
0800 GMT 11 Oct 89

[Text] The National Assembly resumed its session in Islamabad this morning. The federal minister for water and power, Sardar Farooq Ahmad Khan Leghari, informed the house that PPP [Pakistan People's Party] government has taken up the question of Wular Barrage [under constructed by India] with India because it is a violation of the Indus Water Treaty. He was making a statement after the deputy speaker, Mrs Ashraf Abbasi, turned down a point of order by Syeda Abida Hussain who challenged the chair's decision to disallow a privilege motion on the subject. The federal minister for parliamentary affairs, Khwaja Ahmad Tariq Rahim, said nothing will be done which harms the interest of the country.

Sind Leader Explains His 'Sindhu Desh' Demand

BK0710100289 Karachi DAWN in English

29 Sep 89 p 12

[Text] Karachi, Sept 28—Veteran Sindhi leader G.M. Syed said on Thursday [28 September] that by Sindhu Desh [country] he meant "an independent and sovereign state" which would be "a member of the United Nations."

He told DAWN here at Haider Manzil: "Now I have come to the conclusion that if the conditions did not change, then the logical conclusion will be the dismemberment of Pakistan and Sindhu Desh becoming a member of the United Nations."

When reminded of MQM [Muhajir Qaumi Movement] chief Altaf Hussain's statement that "so long as even one Muhajir was alive, the dream of Sindhu Desh could never come true," he said: "It is my right to create Sindhu Desh."

Asked how he could incorporate Karachi into Sindhu Desh, considering that Muhajirs were in majority in Karachi, he said: "I have seen the times when 75 percent of Karachi's population used to be Hindu and they were trying to form a paramilitary force with the name of Sanghatan to expel all others from the city, but today you do not see anyone of them. And nobody knows what happens tomorrow."

He was reminded that the Muhajirs had left everything they had behind in India. Where could they go now? Mr Syed remarked: "Is it our problem? It is their problem. Those who want to live here, should stay. We had welcomed them earlier, and even now we are ready to welcome them." He predicted that half of the 90 percent Muhajirs who were now with the MQM, would make Sind their home and become Sindhis. "They will live like us and we will live with them as brothers."

Mr Syed said Sind had reached a "saturation point and we are not ready to accept even one outsider—whether he is Bihari, Punjabi or Pathan."

He also criticised the PPP [Pakistan People's Party] Government, claiming that it did not stick to its promises. "I had extended her (Benazir) unconditional support but later on, when they (PPP) signed the agreement with the MQM, they agreed to bring back the Biharis and allocated funds for Kalabagh Dam and also agreed to build more cantonments in Sind, and lately she had given the mineral resources to the Centre. All these things make us angry and we are angry."

Sind Leader G.M. Syed Arrested by Punjab Police

BK1010162189 Islamabad Domestic Service in English

1600 GMT 10 Oct 89

[Text] A press note issued by the Punjab Government in Lahore tonight says Mr G.M. Syed and his companions of Jeay Sind group have been handed over to Sind police near Kashmir this evening.

1 Killed in Violent Incidents in Quetta

BK1010153389 Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu

1500 GMT 10 Oct 89

[Text] Baluchistan Chief Minister Nawab Mohammad Akbar Khan Bugti assured the Provincial Assembly today that the law and order situation in the province is satisfactory and there is no cause for any alarm.

He referred to an incident that took place in Quetta this morning, in which one person was killed. He said after this incident, which followed a scuffle between two persons, some persons indulged in rioting and set fire to shops and other property. The chief minister added that the rioters also burned tires and created disturbances for some time. The law enforcement agencies gained full control over the situation. An inquiry into this incident is in progress and legal action will be taken against persons involved in this incident, he added.

The Baluchistan chief minister toured the affected areas of Quetta City this evening.

Article Claims Bhutto Government on 'Tenterhooks'

BK0810112589 Islamabad THE MUSLIM in English

28 Sep 89 p 4

[Khalid Akhtar article entitled "Bhutto Government on Tenterhooks"]

[Text] Islamabad is buzzing with all kinds of speculation and prophecies about the country's political future. Nothing appears to be stopping the PPP [Pakistan People's Party] Government at the Centre and the IJI [Islami Jamhoori Ittehad]-led Opposition from a head on collision. Pakistan indeed, will be lucky if this showdown is averted.

Since the beginning of the present session of the Parliament the Opposition has made frantic efforts to muster enough strength to move a no-confidence vote against Benazir Bhutto's Government. And in this endeavour it has been a case of no holds barred. Some of the PPP MNA's [Members of National Assembly] have said that they have been offered huge amounts to change their loyalties.

Benazir Bhutto since then has met the "vulnerable" PPP MNA's and pacified them. Similarly the eight MNA's from FATA (Federal Administered Tribal Areas) have reiterated their support for Benazir Bhutto's Government. (Earlier reports said some of them had been won over by the Opposition). Apparently, Benazir Bhutto has averted the no-confidence move threat, at least for the time being.

The Opposition to a very large extent has succeeded in pinning Benazir Bhutto against the wall for most of the time. The "arrogant defiance" of the Centre by IJI Chief Nawaz Sharif-ruled Punjab and the perpetual threat of a no-confidence vote has put Benazir Bhutto on tenterhooks giving her no relief. Her dilemma is how to

establish the Federal writs, particularly in Punjab and rule effectively. Unless she does that her hold at the Centre will remain weak and fragile.

Only last week in an unprecedented move the Punjab police arrested two FIA [Federal Investigation Agency] officials who had raided a beverage company, owned by an IJI Provincial Minister and two sons of late Gen. Akhtar Abdur Rahman, in Lahore on suspicion of evading excise duty. Never before had Federal authority been flouted in this way. It was almost a declaration of war by Nawaz Sharif against the Centre.

Most observers and analysts are of the view that the PPP Government's response to the incident has made matters worse. Charging the Punjab government with a long list of infractions from rebellion to subverting the Constitution was not a sensible approach, particularly when the central government was in no position to punish the provincial government for its "rebellious" acts. The next day Nawaz Sharif landed in Islamabad and hit out at the PPP even harder.

The PPP has now three options. They are firstly, to institute governor's rule in Punjab, which is the least feasible; secondly to file a reference in the Supreme Court against Nawaz Sharif's government for defying Federal authority and try to seek a favourable verdict; and thirdly, to put its head down, avoid falling into the IJI trap by not indulging in any rash act, and quietly and diligently prepare itself for the next election, whenever that may be.

There are reports that the central government is considering the second option. But it will not be the best way out. Z.A. Bhutto's reference against the NAP [National Awami Party] of Wali Khan in 1973 did not solve any of his problems. It will be unfortunate if his daughter and heir makes the same mistake. Political issues should be resolved politically. Any other approach if applied, will create more problems than it will solve.

It is hoped that some of the recent developments will give a much needed boost to the PPP's morale and help it to grapple with the challenges with greater assurance and conviction. The dismissal of the petition by the Peshawar High Court against 10 IJI members for crossing the floor and joining the PPP-led coalition government in NWFP [North-West Frontier Province] is a serious rebuff to IJI's efforts to destabilise the PPP Government in the province. The impact of this judgment could be far-reaching. The PPP now has better prospects of enticing disgruntled IJI members to join its ranks. Conversely it will be harder for Nawaz Sharif and his colleagues to protect the IJI ranks from the PPP onslaught and attempts to cause dissent in the party.

Secondly in the recent past Benazir Bhutto has made significant inroads in the country's power structure and establishment—a factor that in Pakistan's case has remained decisive in determining the longevity of a regime. Her visit to Sind regimental centre in Hyderabad, though annoying the nationalist elements in Sind,

won for her the unqualified admiration of the Army hierarchy. Gen. Aslam Beg, the COAS [Chief of Army Staff], made it a point to disclose that his repeated requests to the former Prime Minister Mohammad Khan Junejo to visit Pano Aqil Cantonment in Sukkur bore no fruit. The bitterness in his tone was easily noticeable. And mind you, Mohammad Khan Junejo is the chief of the Muslim League, a leading component of the IJI.

Finally the timely meeting, which some have described as a chanced reconciliation between President Ghulam Ishaq Khan and Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto at a Saudi National Day reception a few days ago has removed the only element of tension at the Federal level. The two have met after more than two months and happily did not show any of the strain or bitterness that has soured their relations since the controversy over Admiral Sirohey's retirement. Ishaq Khan's optimistic tone that all will be well was a positive signal for Benazir and her government. After the Eighth Amendment the President has come to assume a political role—a fact, if recognised sooner would have benefited the PPP Government. It is the non-recognition of this reality by the PPP that has more than anything else helped the IJI to project Ghulam Ishaq as its man.

Equally important are PPP contacts with the Pir of Pagara and Mohammad Khan Junejo, the two Muslim League leaders. What the objective is behind this is difficult to evaluate. However, one thing is evident, that these contacts have made Nawaz Sharif and his IJI shaky. No less disturbing for IJI are the prospects that Benazir Bhutto may as well use the "Khar [former chief minister of Punjab said to be willing to join PPP] card" in the Punjab.

The PPP has shown the capacity to stand against heavy odds and occasionally hit back. It came out on top in the "War of Rallies", forcing the IJI to retreat. Since then the IJI has refrained from resorting to staging a show of strength. The worst may still not be over for Benazir Bhutto and her PPP. But there is no doubt that given sensible handling and an element of good luck, the PPP can ride out the storm.

Sri Lanka

Security Coordinating Group on PKF Withdrawal

BK0910125589 Delhi Domestic Service in English
1230 GMT 9 Oct 89

[Text] In Sri Lanka, the first meeting of the security coordinating group on Northeastern Province was held in Colombo yesterday to suggest measures for the safety and security arrangements in the province after the phased withdrawal of PKF [Indian Peacekeeping Force] and strengthening the civilian administration. The group was set up under the agreement reached between India and Sri Lanka on the 18th of last month.

Meanwhile, at least 58 people have been killed in continuing violence in the island. Agency reports, quoting military sources, say that 21 civilians, mostly supporters of the ruling United National Party, were shot dead by suspected JVP [Janatha Vimukthi Peramuna] men during the last 24 hours. The security forces killed 31 JVP activists in separate encounters. Six unidentified bodies have been found at different places.

Tamil Faction Reacts to Withdrawal

BK1010132289 Delhi Domestic Service in English
1230 GMT 10 Oct 89

[Text] In Sri Lanka, the Eelam National Democratic Liberation Front, ENDLF, has appealed to the PKF [peacekeeping force] to review its decision to withdraw from the island by the end of this year. In a press release today it urged that the PKF should leave only after ensuring the safety of the Tamils. The release said the PKF presence is essential until June 1990.

Tamil Front Asks PKF To Remain

BK1110042489 Hong Kong AFP in English
0406 GMT 11 Oct 89

[Text] New Delhi, Oct 11 (AFP)—A pro-India Sri Lankan Tamil militant group has asked Indian troops deployed in the island's north-east to remain until at least June 1990, newspapers reported Wednesday [11 October].

The Eelam National Democratic Liberation Front (ENDLF) said in a statement issued in the southern Indian city of Madras late Tuesday that New Delhi should review its decision to pull out its troops by December 31. Most Sri Lankan Tamil groups maintain offices in Madras, capital of Tamil Nadu State, which is separated from the island nation by a narrow strip of sea.

The ENDLF, which forms part of the north-eastern provincial administration in Sri Lanka, said it "will take at least six months for the tamils (across the north-east) to protect themselves," the PATRIOT and other newspapers said. The presence of the now 40,000-strong Indian peacekeeping force (IPKF) was necessary "at least till June 1990," the ENDLF added.

The statement also accused the Sri Lankan Government of taking the help of the island's most powerful Tamil militant group, the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE), to kill members of the anti-government Janatha Vimukthi Peramuna (JVP, or People's Liberation Front).

Thousands of people have been killed during the past two years in the JVP's anti-government campaign. The JVP has refused to talk to Colombo, while the LTTE opened peace talks with the government in April. Indian troops were deployed in Sri Lanka's Tamil north-east under a 1987 bilateral pact which sought to end Tamil separatism. The troops began disarming operations against the LTTE in October 1987 after it repudiated the accord.

Since then, more than 1,000 Indian soldiers and more than 2,000 suspected LTTE guerrillas have died in fighting. The LTTE has demanded that Indian troops be withdrawn from Sri Lanka.

Under an agreement signed between New Delhi and Colombo September 18, India has promised to make all efforts to take home its soldiers by December 31.

LTTE Says Indians Training 'Mercenary Army'

BK1010121589 Hong Kong AFP in English 1158 GMT
10 Oct 89

[Text] Colombo, Oct 10 (AFP)—Sri Lanka's most powerful Tamil guerrilla group Tuesday offered an amnesty to rival militants and accused India of building what it called a mercenary army in the island's northeast.

The Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) said in a statement that Indian troops and intelligence operatives deployed here were involved in a "massive military program" to train forcibly conscripted Tamil boys.

"The Government of India is creating this illegal paramilitary organisation to protect its puppet provincial regime and fight Tamil tigers," the LTTE statement released here said. It said the group had offered "amnesty and safe conduct to those innocent young boys who surrender" to the LTTE. "Over 100 have already deserted and surrendered to the LTTE with arms."

The statement called the creation of the Tamil paramilitary force a major stumbling block to current peace talks between LTTE rebels and the Government of Sri Lankan President Ranasinghe Premadasa.

The Tamil Tigers are bitterly opposed to the Eelam People's Revolutionary Liberation Front (EPRLF) which controls the Tamil-majority Northeastern Provincial Council.

Northeastern Council Chief Minister Varadharaja Perumal, who is a leader of the pro-Indian EPRLF, has said they were building a 30,000-strong paramilitary organisation to maintain security in the area after the expected departure of Indian troops later this year.

He has urged Colombo to recruit at least 30,000 people from the minority Tamil community to maintain the ethnic ratio in the largely Sinhalese Sri Lankan armed services.

If authorities fail to absorb the 30,000 Tamils into the security forces, they will be considered the legal law enforcement arm of his provincial administration, Mr Perumal has said. The LTTE statement accused New Delhi of creating civil war conditions in the island's northeast by creating what it described as a "mercenary army" or a "Tamil national army."

"We appeal to the Government of India to persuade the New Delhi administration to stop militarisation and disband the illegal paramilitary force," the LTTE statement said.

Indian troops deployed in the Tamil regions under a 1987 Indo-Sri Lankan peace accord are set to leave the island by the end of the year following an understanding between the two countries on September 18. The LTTE initially accepted the peace pact but later repudiated it, prompting a major October 1987 Indian Army offensive against them.

Since then, over 1,100 Indian soldiers and more than 2,500 suspected Tiger rebels have died in bitter combat.

Communique Reports Arrest of More 'Subversives'

*BK0810135589 Colombo Domestic Service in English
1245 GMT 8 Oct 89*

[Text] A government communique says that during the past 24 hours the security forces arrested five subversive

suspects at Wellawatte and Tibbotugoda in (?joint) search operations. At Puttalam, police arrested 138 suspects. Interrogations are now in progress.

In the Karunegala District, the forces rounded up 200 persons at mahapola [village market] and detained 3 persons. They also arrested 14 suspects at Tambuttigama in the Anuradhapura District. Six subversives were also arrested at (Tirukachu) and (Bodhugama) areas.

Fourteen suspects were arrested at (Bodhugama) in the Kalutara District in the search operations. The security forces recovered arms and ammunition. They also recovered several guns and ammunition in the coordinated search operations in Kegalla, Kalutara, (Padmanna), Moneragala and Nuwara Eliya districts.

The curfew, which comes into force at 2300 today, will be lifted at 0400 tomorrow and reimposed at 2300 tomorrow.